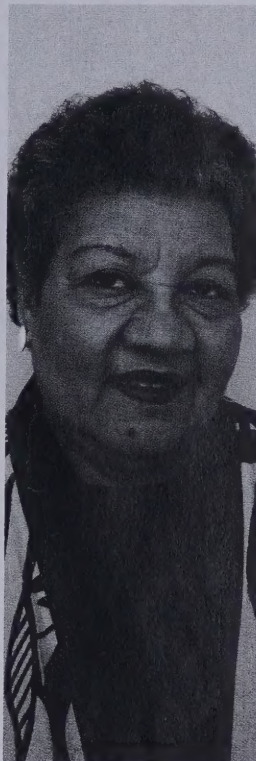


grand marshal: aida rentas

After living in cities such as Denver, San Francisco, and New York City, Aida Rentas moved to the Southeast in search of warmer weather. She arrived on the Atlanta scene in 1992 and immediately jumped into the social and political life here. Aida joined Fourth Tuesday (a social/support network for lesbian/bi/trans women), founded the group Latinos En Acción, joined the founding board of the Georgia Equality Project, was on the Gay & Lesbian Liaison Committee for Mayor Bill Campbell, AND headed a panel for The Civilian Review Board. With dedication, and an incredible community activism resume, Aida began training with the Victory Fund to prepare to run for public office.



aida
rentas

In 1996, Aida's life was forever changed by a tragic accident. Shortly after speaking at the Atlanta Pride Festival, she was struck down by a Mack truck on Peachtree Street. Aida was very lucky to be alive, but she was unable to work or be as active in the community. These trying times gave her the opportunity to reflect on her life. Aida took a less visible role in political life, but continued to work diligently behind the scenes. She took an active part in developing and bringing to life the Gay & Lesbian Visitors Center for the 1996 Olympics and the "Olympics out of Cobb County" protest. Aida received the 1996 Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Community Award that same year.

After spending many years as the Volunteer Coordinator for The National Black Arts Festival (NBAF), Aida resigned to become Outreach Coordinator for The Names Project (The AIDS Memorial Quilt). Following a very successful run working with the Quilt, Aida moved on in December of 2005 to found The Grass Roots Institute, which she currently runs. The mission of this non-profit organization is to support children of single parents during their spring, summer, and winter breaks from school. The Grass Roots Institute provides arts and cultural programming taught by local and professional artists. Her belief that we all need to be involved in our community and political processes still drives her today, as she serves as Mayor Shirley Franklin's Volunteer Coordinator.

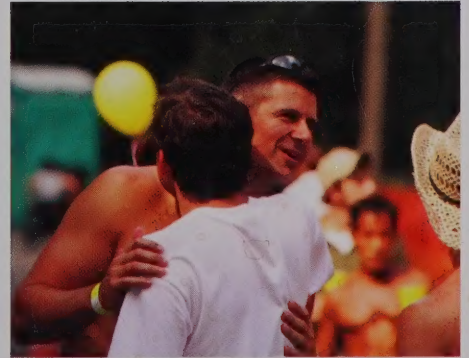
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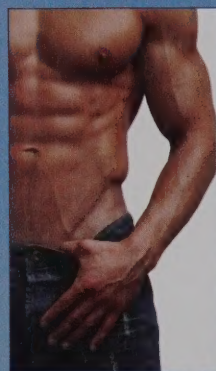
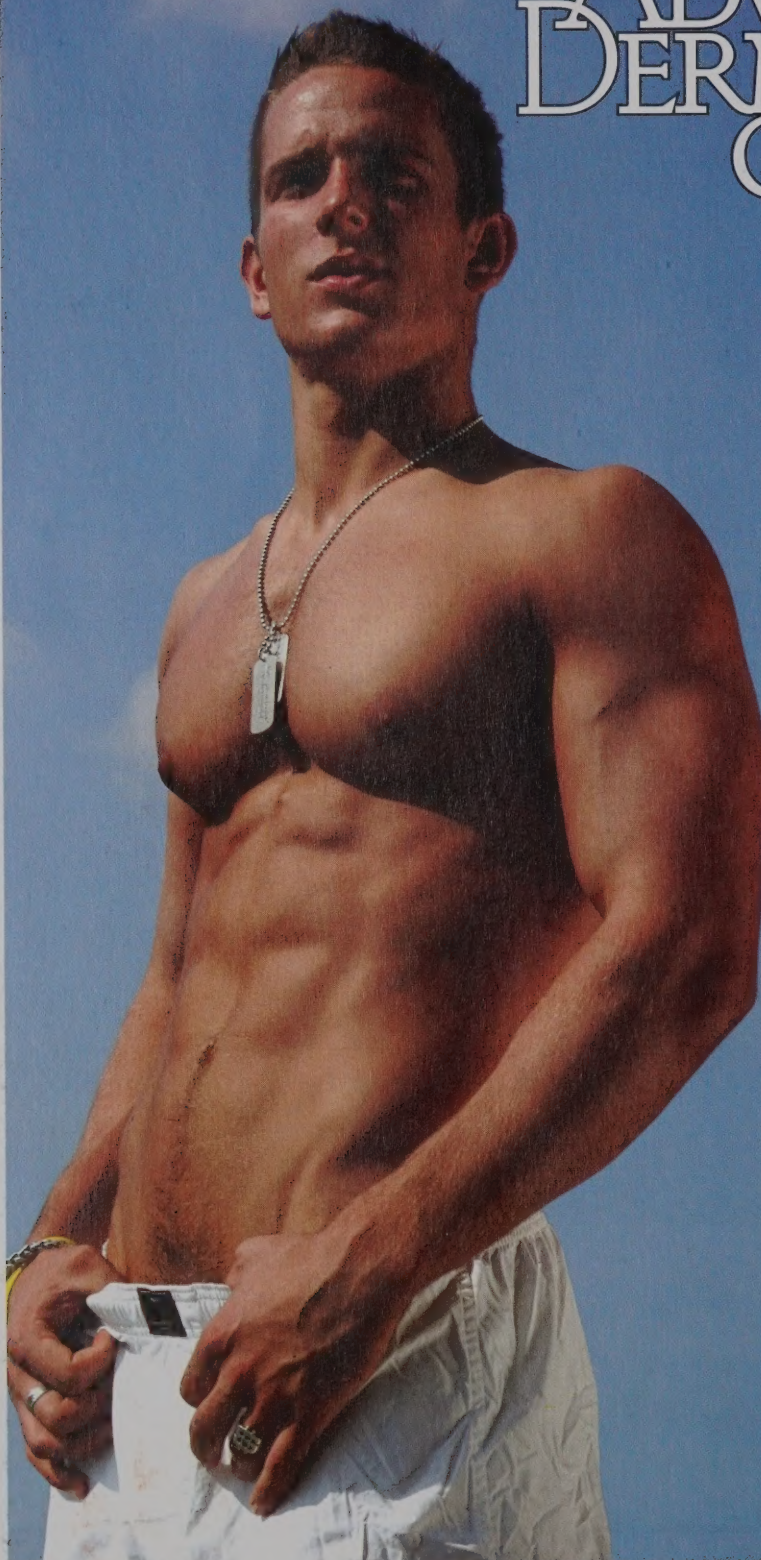


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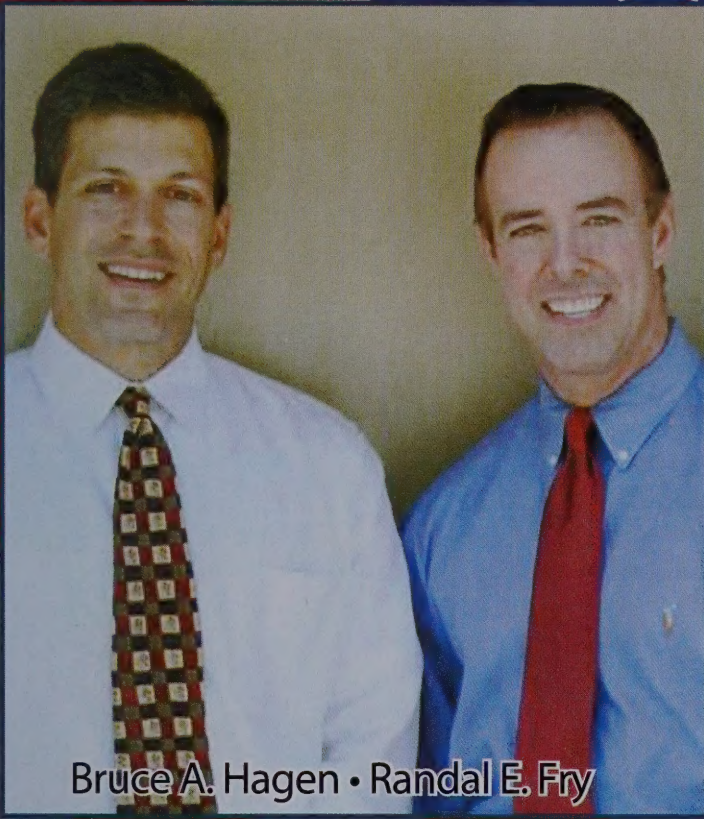
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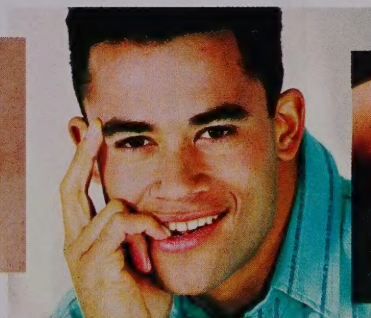
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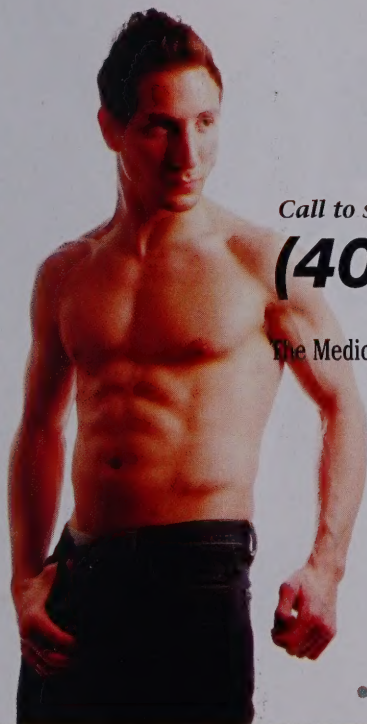
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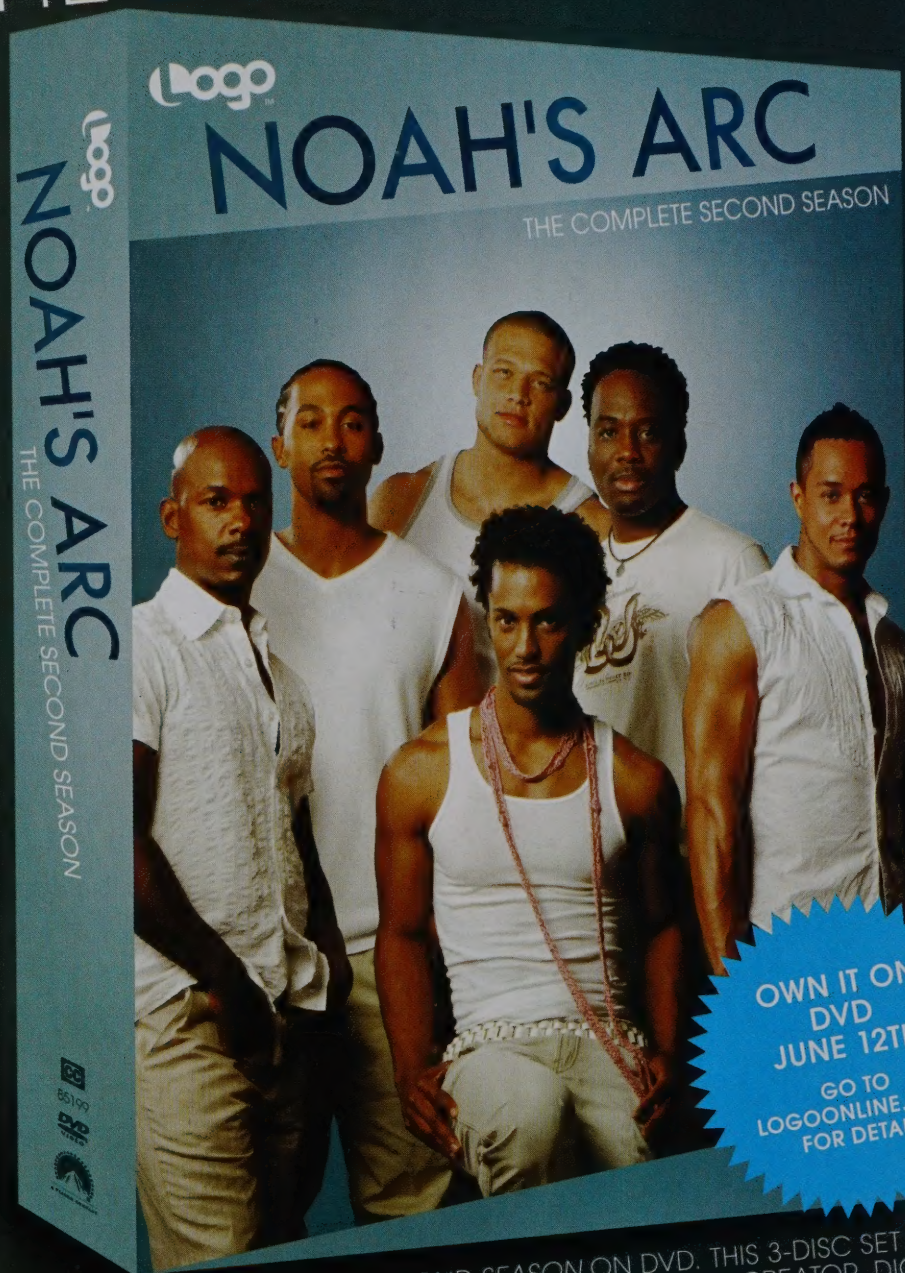
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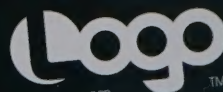


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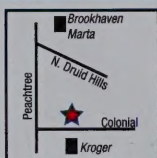
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Volume 17 

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank Atlanta's GLBT community for their continued support to The Gay Community Yellow Pages, Inc. for the past 18 years. As the owner of The Gay Community Yellow Pages, Inc. I have had the honor to watch our community blossom into a strong and integral part of Atlanta's infrastructure.

For the past 18 years I have sat on the sidelines as a Sponsor of Atlanta Pride yearning to make more of a difference in our communities largest and most successful event.

This year I am proud to say that I embarked on a new venture, opened a new publishing company, and added some awesome partners, to my family. Our new company is called M Squared Productions and we are honored and proud to be the Publishers for the Official Guide to Atlanta Pride.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our advertisers, our hard working staff, and last but not least Donna Narducci's hard working team that made this dream a reality for us. As you read through our Guide make sure to let the advertisers know where you saw them and thank them for their continued support to our community.

We are proud to present to you the Official 2007 Atlanta Pride Guide. Remember our theme everyday for this years pride is OUR RIGHTS, YOUR RIGHTS, HUMAN RIGHTS. This is our way of life, NOT A SLOGAN...

THANK YOU HOTLANTA



**jennifer
sheffield**
editor

bottom to top
donna flanders
the wife
jennifer sheffield

We are incredibly grateful to Marci Alt and the M Squared Productions team for helping us produce the 2007 Official Guide to Atlanta Pride. A variety of publishers have offered us a variety of ways to create our guide, but M Squared allowed us to publish a magazine that truly keeps with the spirit of the Atlanta Pride Festival: a meaningful, quality production that is FREE to the public.

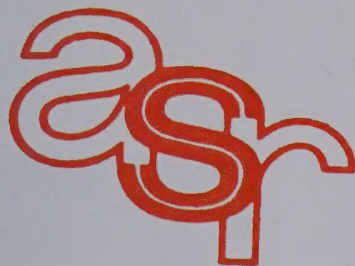
The entire dedicated team of contributors volunteered their time and talents to the Atlanta Pride Committee. I would like to give special thanks to our grammar guru Kristyn Johnson, to our writers, Drew Plant, Billy Urich, and Joanna Brooks, and to our resident go-to girl, Darie Kidwell, for doing pretty much anything that we ever ask of her. Most importantly, we could not have done this without Al Pellenberg. He did a remarkable job with the layout and put in countless hours to make each article absolutely beautiful. Al not only kept me calm throughout this entire process, but he dealt with every, "Can we change this again?" with complete grace.

I hope each of you enjoy this magazine as much as we have enjoyed creating it.

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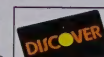
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B. ANDREW PLANT

MORE THAN MONEY

B. Andrew (Drew) Plant has been a writer and PR consultant for more than 20 years. He frequently writes about LGBTQ issues and health care topics. Drew lives in Atlanta with husband Bill and a dog and a cat., and is currently at work on an unauthorized autobiography. www.BAndrewPlant.com



JOANNA BROOKS

THE OTHER SCENE

Joanna has freelanced as a theater and dance critic since 1999. She is the founder and director of Atlanta's award-winning modern dance company brooks & company dance. www.brooksandcompanydance.com



DARIE KIDWELL

Darie (rhymes with "sorry") volunteered with Atlanta Pride for the 2000 festival, having never even attended a Pride festival. Since 2004 she has worked diligently to shape the Atlanta Pride Committee's volunteer program into what it is now, implementing new strategies and technology.



KRISTYN JOHNSON

COPY EDITOR

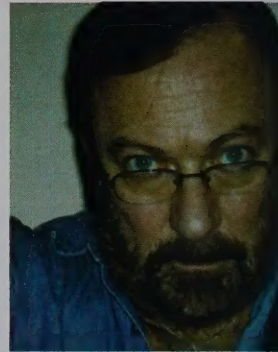
When Kristyn is not finding spelling errors on menus (a gift and a curse), she can be found doing something incredibly dorky and uncool. She has recently discovered several grey hairs and is completely traumatized. She lives in Milwaukee (brrrr) with her fiancé and two dogs.



AL PELLENBERG

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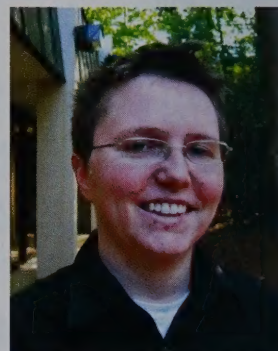
Al has served as the Creative Director for Atlanta PRIDE for the last 15 years and has been a member of APC for over 20 years. He and his husband CK live with their Dad, and dogs Bandit and Boris.



BILLY URICH

HAPPY PRIDE EVERYONE

Urich is a Regional Director for InterPride and serves as co-chair of the InterPride subcommittee on International GLBTI Human and Civil Rights.



JENNIFER SHEFFIELD

EDITOR

Jennifer enjoys being in over her head on projects (such as this magazine) on a regular basis. She is forever indebted to the other folks on this page that made this whole thing come together.



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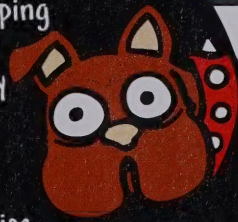


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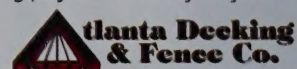
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T H E
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joanna brooks

photos: jamie rosenthal



The performing arts have always been a home for the LGBTQ community. Whether we're watching, performing or behind the scenes, dance and theatre have always been places we can go to find family. This year, there are several companies that are expressly addressing LGBTQ themes. The people who are deciding which plays to produce and the choreographers who create the movement for bodies on the stage are just as diverse as the community they address.

Do you ever find yourself a little bit sick of going to your regular bars, *again*, or spending *another* Sunday afternoon on the patio of your favorite restaurant? Sure, many of these places are for us, by us, but there are many other entertaining ways to see your community represented around Atlanta.



Tim Habberger, artistic director of Push Push Theater, emphasizes diversity in his performance seasons by making no distinctions based on race, sex or sexual orientation. He does admit, however, that at least half of the productions have LGBTQ themes. "We encourage representative diversity in all our work," he says. The same statement rings true for many theater companies, but OnStage Atlanta has a different point of view. Artistic director Brian Porter says, "I believe being a gay man influences everything I do and how I perceive the world." OSA has historically produced work that addresses gay issues. This year they are ending their 2006-2007 season with *BASH* by Neil Labute, which delves into the motivations of a gay-basher, and the hit musical celebrated by the LGBTQ community, *The Full Monty*. Brian is aware that OSA has an audience largely comprised of LGBTQ people and says, "Whether it is because we have openly explored those issues in our productions or because the LGBTQ community so openly embraces and supports the arts, I do not know. But, we make a point in rewarding our patrons for their support.... and we absolutely try to keep the gay community aware of what we're doing." Actors Express is another theater company that always packs their seasons with productions that speak to, and about, the LGBTQ community.

Atlanta's rapidly growing modern dance scene consistently addresses the LGBTQ crowd, leaving audiences to interpret a range of LGBTQ themes. Choreographer Molly Perez of indieMOVE, a modern dance company comprised of two women, made the observation about dance, "It is that age old story; put two bodies on stage and they are in love, put three bodies on stage and it is a love triangle." The physicality of dance naturally depicts intimacy between people, and creates LGBTQ themes when those partners are of the same sex, humorously



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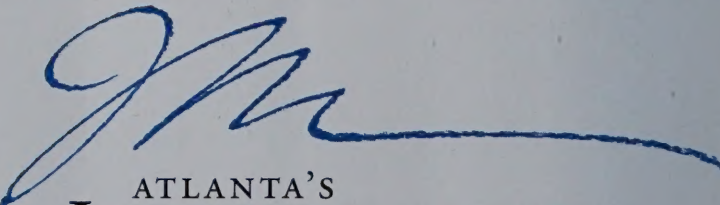
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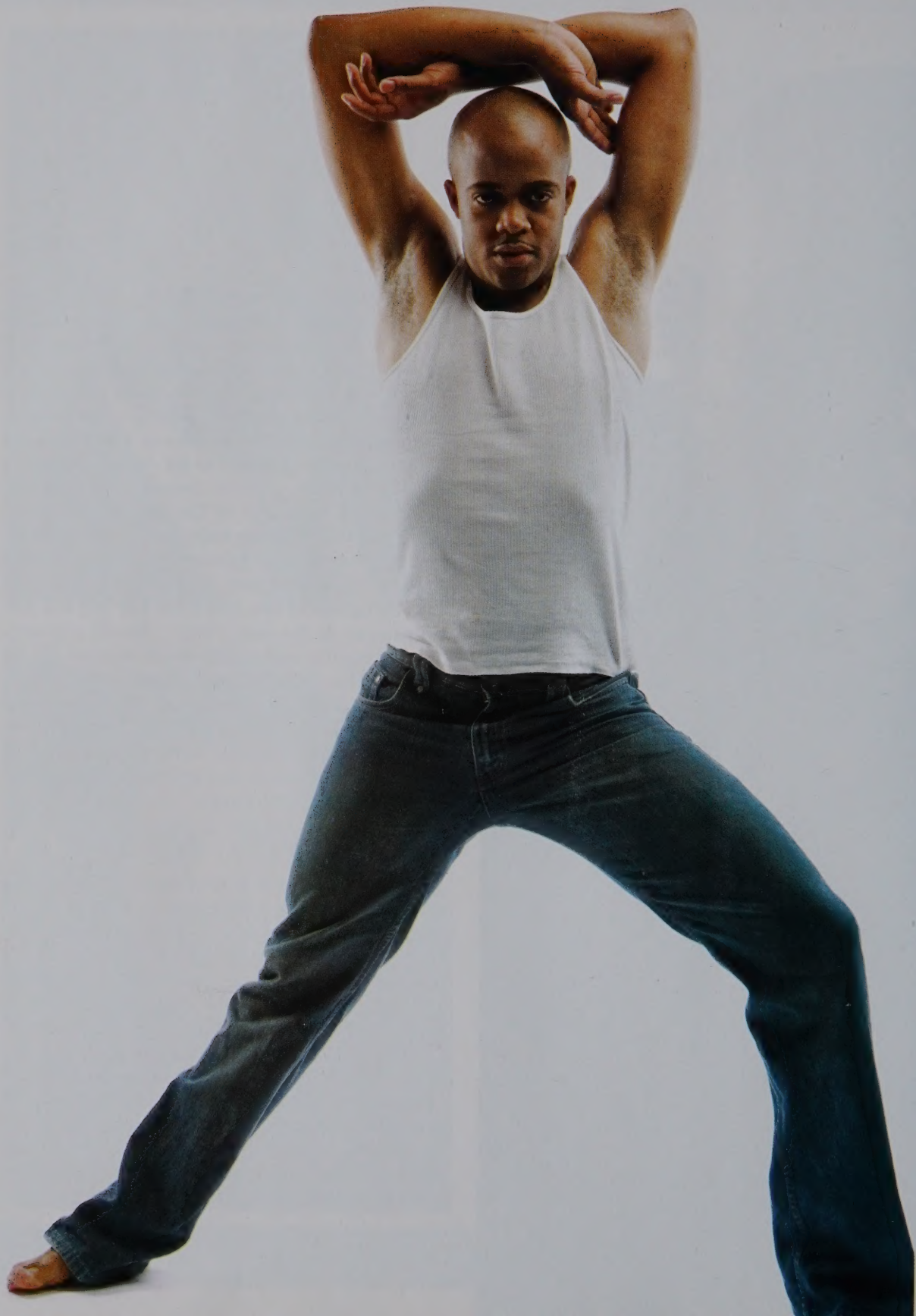


D. Evie Frye



demonstrated in the work *InPress (in 3 parts)*, showing at brooks & company dance's *Shorts II* on May 4 & 5 at the DeFoor Centre. Unlike classical ballet, where a man is always falling in love with a woman and vice-versa, modern dance inextricably addresses homosexuality through movement. Choreographer and dancer Brooks Emanuel has a history of exploring gender in his dances. In talking about a two-part piece he created while studying dance at the University of Georgia, he said, "The first [part] was a female-male duet in which I tried to make partnering as gender-neutral and equal as possible. The second part...I had a boy-girl and girl-boy pairing almost kiss, then I had boy-boy and girl-girl pairings do the same thing." Brooks continues to study equality and gender power dynamics in his work. "The piece I'm working on for brooks & company's *Shorts II* is ending up with some crazy power dynamics. In my estimation," says Brooks, "human rights and equality issues all end up coming back to issues of power, and power dynamics end up showing in my choreography."

Artistic director of Beacon Dance Theater, Patton White, doesn't exclusively target LGBTQ audiences although he is aware that his work is influenced by his own sexuality. "Through movement, text and costume design, I have challenged expectations and traditional gender role expression over many years." The latest undertaking of Beacon Dance, *1906/2006/2106*, studies the role of oppression even further. "Our intention is to provide a forum for a variety of responses through multiple mediums...We anticipate that multiple forms of oppression will be expressed: racism, hetero-sexism, gender-ism, mixed ability-ism, age-ism, etc." Check out www.beacondance.org for performance dates.



T H E
OTHER
SCENE

brooks & company dance, not to be confused with independent choreographer Brooks Emanuel, consistently explores gender biases through modern dance. In *Crème Brûlée*, two women move independently to the two voices in Leo Delibes' opera *Flower Duet*. Once they come together to lift and carry each other, they switch roles and begin dancing to the opposite voice. The main stage productions of brooks & company dance consistently address human rights, as well as gender roles. In their award-winning production *The Lottery*, a community of people draw ballots to select their annual human sacrifice, carried out by a child. In choreographing *The Lottery*, I wanted to show the "Everyman", costumed in a T-shirt and jeans, passing the atrocity of violence through generations of children. brooks & company dance's 2007 main stage production of *Coppelia...The Real Story* challenges sexuality and gender roles in a different context. b&cd's version takes the traditional story of a man

lusting after a mechanical doll, placing it in a more contemporary social setting, where the doll is a sex toy. Rather than marrying him anyway, as the classical ballet depicts, b&cd's version has the man's disenchanted fiancé empowering her notion of their relationship by creating a sexual persona for herself; she becomes a dominatrix. Check out www.brooksandcompanydance.com for performance dates and location.

Atlanta has a wide variety of performance venues for the LGBTQ community. Both dance and theater companies continue to create entertainment that speaks to our diverse and evolving population. Next time you're getting ready for a night out, make a stop to see your issues and interests on stage before hitting the same old bar.

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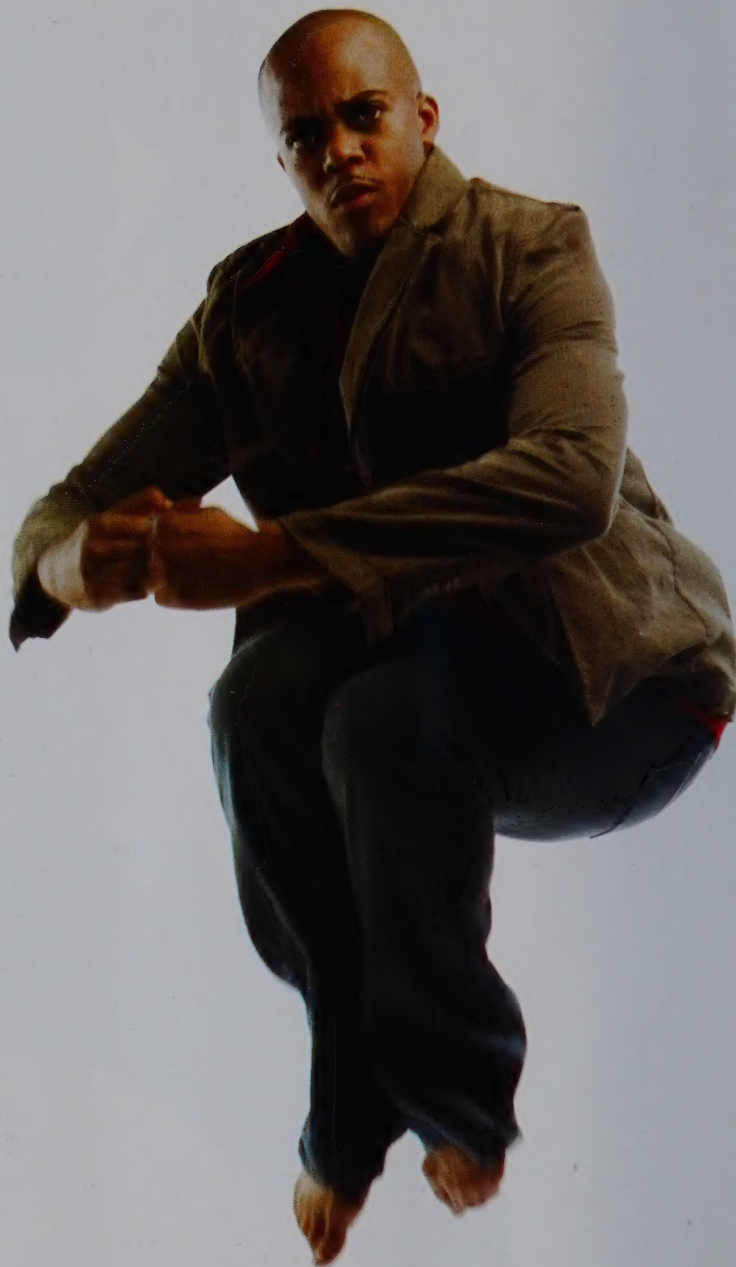
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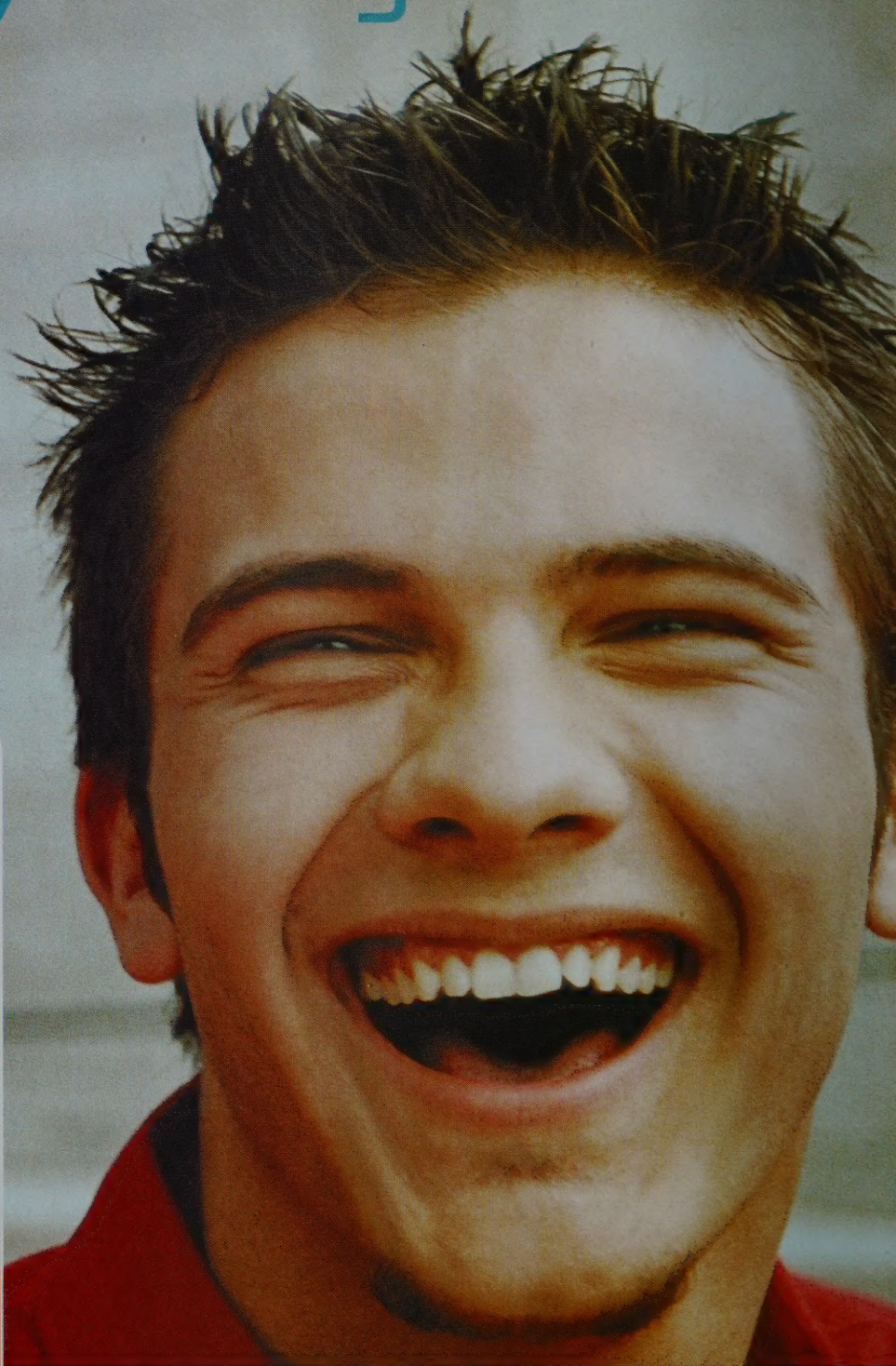
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HAPPY PRIDE EVERYONE

the relationship between human rights and PRIDE
events from a global perspective

HAPPY PRIDE EVERYONE

By William Urich

with grateful acknowledgement from contributors of the Human Rights Forum held during the Annual General Meeting of InterPride, October, 2007 in Portland, Maine: Dmitri Bartenev, Moscow Pride; Tomasz Baczkowski, Warsaw Pride, Rosanna Flamer-Caldera, Equal Ground, Sri Lanka; Oscar Ataderro, Manila, the Philippines; Nada Raphael, HELEM, Beirut and Montreal (Diverscite); Aidan Dunn, San Francisco

“HAPPY PRIDE, everyone!”

Yes, HAPPY PRIDE. It's the familiar greeting you hear repeatedly all day at the once-a-year festival where you go to buy GLBTIQXYZ-themed chatchkas, lavender candles, buttons, the occasional piece of jewelry, bumper stickers, and to enjoy a beer or share recent gossip with friends. You walk around with your dog, who might be wearing a rainbow collar or hankie. You enjoy watching a parade and might even cheer the contingent of queer police officers who pass by as active participants in the Pride Parade. You hear gay and lesbian-related messages and music from queer (and supportive) speakers and musicians on stage. You see folks you know or those you only see out at such events. But you see people. Friendly people. Lots of people. People like you. They're all doing the same thing you're doing: being seen strutting your pride and enjoying a peaceful day. Fear is the farthest thing from your mind.

“HAPPY PRIDE, everyone!”

It is shouted proudly from the stage to welcoming cheers and applause. It rings loudly. It rings clearly amongst the festive crowd. Once a year, we “let freedom ring.”

But, not every year and not everywhere. In many places around the world, there is silence. In many places around the world, there is invisibility. In some places, when that silence and invisibility are breached, there is ostracizing, imprisonment... or death. Indeed, let freedom ring.

We in the West have enjoyed an active Pride movement and some advances in equality and recognition since Stonewall. We're used to it. It's no big deal. Like many of us, Pride is moving into a comfortable and complacent middle age. In many areas of the world, however, an emerging Pride movement is just now enduring

Police arresting Nikolai Alekseev, organizer of Moscow Pride, near the tomb of the unknown soldier after the Mayor banned the Pride event from taking place.
Copyright Yuri Gavrikov, GayRussia.Ru

the stresses of birth... a slow and agonizing birth. During the first Belgrade Pride March in 2001, our peaceful Serbian brother and sister Pride goers were harassed, beaten and bloodied by religious and skinhead groups as the police stood idly by and watched. Although present, the good officers offered very little support and protection from the abusing anti-gay protesters, some of their own ranks included. It turned out to be the ONLY Pride March. There has been no Pride in Belgrade since.

HAPPY PRIDE, everyone? Not in Serbia.

In 2002, during Zagreb's first open Pride event, the young organizer did not shout, "HAPPY PRIDE!" from the stage. Instead, he stood up at the microphone and yelled, "... From this day we shall be silent no longer... from this day, we won't be invisible anymore..." Zagreb has had a successful Pride event ever since, but this achievement was not won without an ongoing, widening struggle. It could not have been won without a courage that surpasses a constant fear of retribution from hate-mongers and religious bigots. With a brave and daring GLBT community and diligent police support, Pride events have occurred in Croatia since 2002.

HAPPY PRIDE, everyone!

When the nations of the former Soviet Bloc signed on to the various international European bodies (i.e., the EU, Council of Europe, etc.), they agreed to adopt and conform to the established European standards of Human Rights. The extent of the protection of Human Rights (HR) in any nation is directly proportional to the level of democracy that nation has attained and to how well it conforms to the standards of the international bodies of which they are a part. Ideally, it is the combined pressure of conforming nations on the "bad guys" that can



force compliance with accepted practice, but not always. In some cases, like the EU, membership is contingent upon each member adopting specific HR in individual member constitutions. Failure to do so can be grounds for exclusion. Russia and Moldova belong to the Council but not the EU. Therefore, the level of HR protections is still lower in those parts of Europe.

All over the world. HR are tested during Pride organizing and activity. Neo-fascist Nationalists, religious protesters and homophobic municipal leaders' refusals hinder us while the state silently approves hate speech. There is an obvious absence of HR non-profits in these areas, and the ability to monitor abuses of Human Rights is extremely limited.

The guarantee of police protection is written into constitutions. However, European Convention protocols allow for certain restrictions on freedom of assembly in the interest of national security, and some homophobic mayors use this as a loophole to prevent Pride events from taking place. Moscow officials, for example, said they couldn't guarantee the security or safety of Pride participants and therefore banned Moscow's first gay Pride. Interestingly enough, they want to host an Olympics and say security and safety are of no issue. Their constitutional law and the laws of organizations they signed onto are supposed to guarantee equal treatment. This is the basis for the suit which Moscow Pride organizers have filed against the city.

In Poland,

a nation which shares a similar history with other former Eastern Bloc countries, the church is the greatest stumbling block, supported by homophobic municipal officials who ban Pride events. Just last year, Warsaw was finally able to put on the first legal Pride celebration, but foreign intervention was

instrumental in facilitating the event. As elsewhere, homosexuality was not visible at all during the totalitarian regime. The fall of the Soviet Union would result in an increase of rights and protections, but any Pride movement at all in these areas had to start from zero. In much of eastern Europe (and indeed, much of Africa and Asia as well), there is a common equating of gays to criminals and pedophiles. If you're gay, you break the law and rape children. With no non-profit HR groups to help educate the public, GLBT groups have the daunting job of multitasking, and the lack of money is always an issue. With the few brave activists working on HR, HIV/AIDS, public education, etc., despite the obvious importance of Pride in these areas, the event itself often has to take a back seat. This is why it is such a MAJOR occurrence when Pride actually happens there.

Asia is closeted

and people are forced to conform to heteronormative behavior. There is family pressure to marry and produce children, so homosexuals are forced underground and become invisible. It's hard to bring these people out when their lives are endangered. Poverty and money are always problematic, making sponsorship nearly impossible in some areas. The power of a closeted GLBT market is not recognized. Culture is a problem: families are shamed. With more pressing HR issues, Pride is not always a priority.

There are some positive changes, however.

Taiwan

is leaning toward tolerance and has accepted Pride events. **HAPPY PRIDE, everyone!** The attitude in China is softening and they are expanding programs for HIV/AIDS among gay men as well as the general public. But no Pride yet in Tiananmen Square. In

Press conference on May 27, 2006 before Moscow Pride.
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Nepal, despite the overthrow of the King, GLBTI issues are still not allowed on the HR agenda. The Blue Diamond Society is working diligently and bravely to change this.

In Sri Lanka,

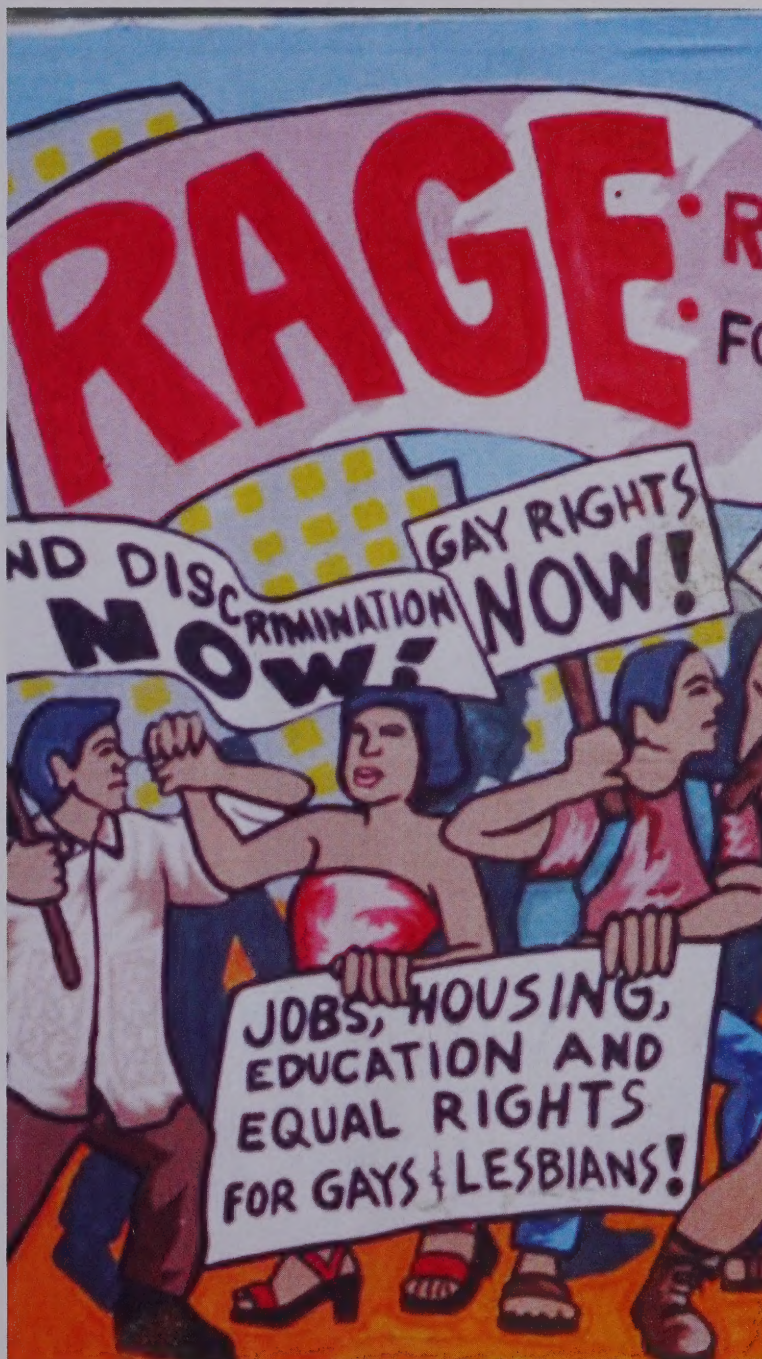
homosexuality is still a criminal offense. GLBT people are targeted by extremists, rounded up and sometimes shot. Bangladesh, Pakistan, Malaysia and more are the same. This is based on religious and cultural taboos. There is a current trend to abhor anything western and homosexuality is seen as a western import, promoting deviant behavior and pedophilia. In many parts of Asia, British Colonial sodomy laws are still in place, despite their having been repealed in the UK. Now, if it existed back then to the point that it had to be legislated against, why do these people think it's a western import? The logic of straight people astounds me.

In Indonesia,

the Muslim police raid gay clubs and target gay Muslims. However, on a brighter note, for the last two years, Equal Ground (the Sri Lankan GLBT organization) has had successful Pride events, but they had no publicity (internet and word of mouth only) and made sure they provided a secure and heavily protected environment. A public Pride march is still out of the question for Sri Lankan Pride participants. They'd be like rotating ducks at a carnival shooting booth.

The Middle East

is no different, with a religiously-sparked homophobic culture. Gays are pedophiles. Sex itself is taboo to talk about, whether hetero or homo. In most of Islam, homosexuality is criminal and usually severely punished, often by death. Family



Russell Murphy, InterPride Co-President, took this image in Jerusalem LAST YEAR, at the time of the Protest/Rally that was held in place of the March that city officials CANCELLED. "It shows a graphic/graffiti that we saw in several places around the city. This one was defaced with what appears to be a swastika."



honor is at stake (sound familiar?), and your own family can kill you for being queer and dishonoring them. Lebanon and Israel are the only centers for GLBT activity in the Middle East. We wince when we think about the two young Iranian boys who were publicly hung for being gay. Since 1979, more than 4,000 alleged homosexuals have been executed there. All countries that have death penalties for homosexuality are Muslim. No **HAPPY PRIDE** there. Ironically, Turkey (a Muslim nation between Asia), the Mideast and Eastern Europe have been having successful Pride events for 14 years. Happy Prides.

Of the 54 countries on the African continent, only a precious small handful have any sort of Pride event at all.

In Africa,

there exists an atmosphere of refusal to acknowledge not only basic human rights but also basic human dignity. The challenges our brothers and sisters face daily are deeply rooted in culture and religion. They are ridiculed instead of treated in hospitals, where doctors act as moralists, not physicians. As many of us have experienced, homophobia is too often used as a platform to gain political standing. In some areas, GLBT activists have attempted a redoing of Bills of Rights, but the outspoken homophobes repeatedly block these efforts in nearly all cases.

Like the Middle East and Asia, there is a common view that homosexuality is an import to Africa. However, Attorney Alice NKrom (who has been fighting for the decriminalization of homosexuality in Cameroon and is currently representing the Cameroon 9), postulates that Africa is the birthplace of mankind, therefore, homosexuality has existed from the beginning. She also concludes that there can be no true creativity without diversity and cites examples of homosexual activity among various species within the animal kingdom. Ms. NKrom puts

Onlookers laugh and jeer as Alekseev is taken in by police.
Copyright Yuri Gavrikov, GayRussia.Ru

forth that if God created Man, and homosexuality has existed all along, that God must want homosexuality to exist. It's a foregone conclusion that religious and political leaders don't go along with that thinking.

The social climate in parts of Africa is not at all unlike that which occurred during Hitler's reign. People in some countries are not dealing so much with Pride issues as they are with issues of their very survival. Confidentiality as a necessity is a given. There is considerable effort to prevent assembly, particularly

in Nigeria,

where stricter laws were just passed which basically ban homosexuality altogether. People often fear imprisonment... or worse. There is rampant, persistent devaluation of humans in much of Africa. In Senegal, for example, there is a 95% Muslim population with an elitist electorate. The overall political and religious control emphasizes a lack of worth of the GLBT population and perpetuates justification for the denial of and refusal to recognize basic Human Rights.

There has to be a closer scrutiny of the entire socio-economic system throughout the continent: the high jobless rate, lack of sponsors and knowledge and means to find them, no money to organize and lobby, etc., etc., ad nauseam. Although HIV/AIDS is rampant, there is poor access to healthcare. As with gays and lesbians in other cultures, many marry to attempt to hide their true identity, and there is forced invisibility just to stay alive. President Bush has prevented all funding dealing with any aspect of birth control whatsoever, making life-saving condoms and even lubricants widely unavailable.

In Atlanta, New York, London,

and many other cities and towns around the globe, we have been having Prides for a while now. Big Prides and little Prides... Happy Prides, all. Belgrade, Bucharest, Chisinau, Krakow, Moscow, Poznan, Riga, Kathmandu, Karachi, Tehran, Baghdad, Abuja, Addis Ababa, Nairobi, Mombasa and many, many other cities and regions continue to endure the suffering and feel the pain that we either never knew or have long ago forgotten. No HAPPY PRIDE there.

Pride is not just about visibility, or marching in a parade or eating different foods or enjoying a stage show. It's all about rights. If you're reading this,



Crowds cheer as proud volunteers carry the huge rainbow flag down Peachtree Street in Atlanta
Copyright atlanta.pride.org, photographer: Craig Combs



you have them. You're lucky. We call it freedom. Human Rights continues to be an issue around the planet. Violations of basic Human Rights occur on a daily basis throughout the world, and they occur with a severity the likes of which we have little or no comprehension of. Without basic Human Rights, there can be no Pride. There are, however, brave souls who continue to try. We should count our blessings here today as we celebrate our Pride. Remember the words of Pearl S. Buck: "None who have always been free can understand the terrible fascinating power of the hope of freedom to those who are not free."

So, when you say "HAPPY PRIDE" while you're enjoying the festivities at your Pride event, keep it somewhere in the back of your thoughts that you are among the fortunate. Not all of us can say:

HAPPY PRIDE, everyone.

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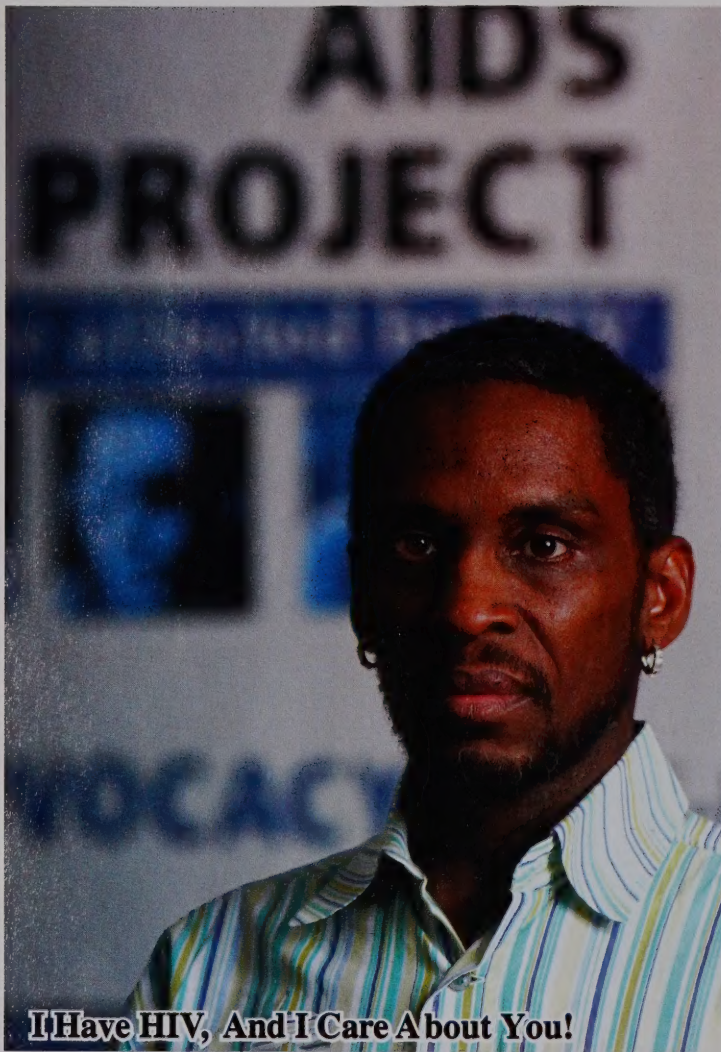


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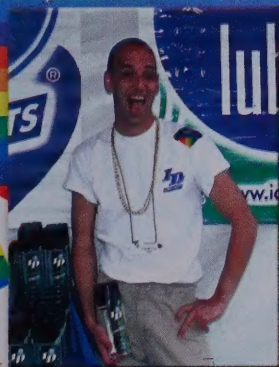
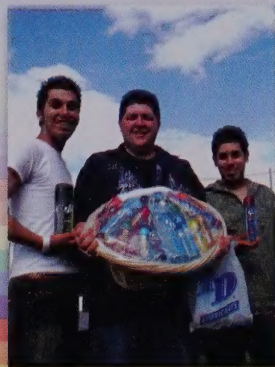
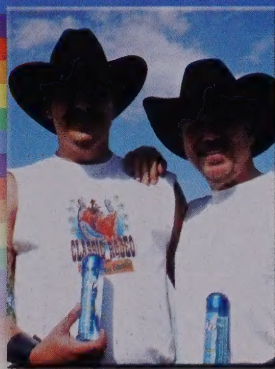
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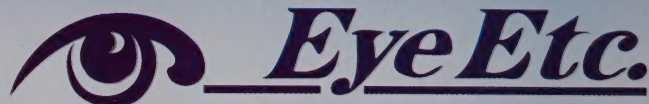
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**WHAT
MAKES PRIDE A
SPECIAL
MOMENT IN
TIME?**

CARROLTON GEORGIA

It was my second Pride Festival in 2005, and as usual it was raining. I arrived late, and the only spot where the parade could clearly be seen was right next to a large group of protestors. With the rain coming down, I looked around me to see an endless sign of hatred. I could barely hear the upbeat music from the passing floats over the constant blare of the megaphone about how we were all sinners. I began to regret showing up late and having to be in the middle of all that the Pride Festival fights against. Just as I was contemplating moving to a less clear spot, but protestor free, a family group walked by holding signs of positivism and love. Mothers, fathers, sons, neighbors, grandparents and clergy filed past the protestors with their signs and rainbow flags of support and compassion. I watched as they slowly gathered in front of the protest group, covering up the hatred and bigotry with their bodies and their message of Pride. Not one negative word was spoken, only the silent power of love. I have not witnessed many moments in my life where I was moved to tears by the humanity people can possess. That Pride, I reaffirmed why I speak out and why I support my GLBT friends in the face of endless opposition and hate. That Pride, I found out exactly where I belong every year in June.

Laura Guerr

STATESBORO GEORGIA

Atlanta Pride 2006 was an amazing experience and brought me the most complete feeling imaginable. It was not only my first Pride festival, it was the first time I felt totally surrounded by people who understood what I knew inside all along. I was lucky enough to share this with not only my partner, but also my father and my dearest friends. The entire weekend flew by in a blur of acceptance, understanding, and laughter. I actually cried tears of joy the first time I realized my partner and I could hold hands in public without fear or stares. I will forever remember that weekend and the freedom and peace I felt.

Sarah Schweigart

NORCROSS GEORGIA

Pride 2006 - I actually attended Pride on the day of the parade that year because my best friend was one of the flag carriers. While waiting for the parade to begin, it started raining, not gradually but in some sort of wave akin to those at sporting events. You could see the wall of water coming. It was my first parade ever and that weird storm put a punctuation mark on it. Even though people were getting soaked, everyone was excited, smiling and enjoying being part of a rare occurrence. Being around so many other happy queer people, even in the face of adverse conditions, was something I'll always treasure. I'm planning to volunteer this year so I can help the Pride Committee create breathtaking moments for others.

James Newton

WHAT MAKES PRIDE A SPECIAL MOMENT IN TIME?

ALPHARETTA GEORGIA

My first Pride was in 2004. I had come out to myself only a year and a half earlier and left my career as a minister to follow my heart. I was a little bit overwhelmed at the sheer number of people attending. I had only known a few people who identified as GLBT and did not know there were so many out there. I arranged to meet an acquaintance from online at a group's booth that weekend and eventually became involved in that group and made many friends here in Atlanta. It was great knowing that I wasn't alone.

The next year, I volunteered with Atlanta Pride and had the privilege of carrying the Flag. It was exciting to hear the crowd raise their voices as it passed. In 2006, I was staffing the Festival Services booth, and I met many people from out of town that said something that echoed with me from my first Pride experience: "I can't believe how many people are here. It's so good to know I am not alone."

I look forward to many more years of involvement with the Atlanta Pride Committee for this simple reason: to let others know they are not alone, and that someone is still out there seeking the same things they are...Love and Equality.

Carlton Harrington

CITY & LAST NAME WITHHELD FOR FEAR OF REPRISAL

The year was 2001, and I had met a very interesting person online! We had shared emails - sometimes ten or fifteen a day - but we lived 300 miles apart and had never met. The time was right to finally meet, so we decided to meet for Pride. What a fabulous first date! For hours, we wandered the market and the other booths, listened to music, laughed, giggled and simply enjoyed each other. Fast forward to now: She moved down here, and we continue to share, giggle, laugh, and enjoy life.... two dogs, four cats, and three young grandsons later!

Thanks for hosting our fabulous first date!

Terri and Alison

Editor's Note:

The Atlanta Pride Committee asked people to share memorable PRIDE experiences that impacted their lives.

We hope you enjoyed reading some of these stories, and that you consider sending us one of your own. As we strive to create a safe space for our patrons to be "OUT" each year, it is important for us to hear from you.

We hope that the Atlanta Pride Festival gives each of you the opportunity to feel comfortable and free to be your true selves.

If you would like to send us your own personal story, please e-mail your letter to: info@atlantapride.org. Be sure to include your name, city, and state (if possible). We are looking forward to publishing more stories next year.

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Who says flying has to be the way it is? Something has to change. Let's start with refreshments: we're shaking cocktails at your seat—mojitos, martinis, and virgin cocktails for the virtuous. There are also flight-status text alerts. More kiosks for smoother check-in. And on select flights we have 24 channels of live TV, over 1600 mp3s, seatback games and HBO.* This is just the beginning. We're rethinking every moment of travel. Be a part of the air travel revolution—visit delta.com/change to pitch your new ideas.



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welcome: mayor franklin



May 5, 2007

Greetings:

As Mayor of Atlanta, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2007 Atlanta Pride Festival hosted by the Atlanta Pride Committee, Inc.

The Atlanta Pride Festival is dedicated to celebrating the rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals in the community. This year's theme, Our Rights, Your Rights, Human Rights commemorates the 1969 Stonewall Riots, which marked the Gay Pride Movement. I commend the Atlanta Pride Committee for your hard work and tireless dedication to continuously empowering our residents fight for Our Rights, Your Rights, and Human Rights. Thank you for making a difference throughout the City of Atlanta.

While in our city, we encourage first time visitors to explore the many attractions Atlanta has to offer, including the Martin L. King Jr. Center, the Apex Museum, Underground Atlanta, the Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coca-Cola, CNN Center, Centennial Olympic Park, Woodruff Arts Center, Atlanta Botanical Garden, Children's Museum of Atlanta and many more! We invite you to share in our Southern hospitality, sample cuisine at our many fine restaurants and enjoy the rich and diverse heritage of our city.

On behalf of the people of Atlanta, I extend best wishes for a memorable occasion!

Sincerely,
Shirley Franklin



**honorable
shirley
franklin**
*mayor,
city of atlanta*

3 a.m. adventure
always worth it®



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welcome: council president borders



June 22, 2007

GREETINGS:

I am truly honored to extend a heartfelt welcome on the occasion of the 37th Annual Atlanta Pride Festival.

Since 1970, the Atlanta Pride Committee has been committed to ending discrimination, securing equal rights and protecting the health and safety of every GLBT American. The Atlanta Pride Festival brings over \$20 million dollars in economic impact to the City of Atlanta each year.

With a mission to ensure that all citizens enjoy basic civil and human rights, this event continues to lead the charge to provide cultural and educational programs that enhance the health and well being of the GLBT community. The Atlanta Pride Festival ensures an awareness of the past, present and future contributions of GLBT Americans in our society.

I am very familiar with the struggle for equality, as my grandfather, Rev. William Holmes Borders, Sr., advocated for civil rights for African Americans in Atlanta in the 1950's and 1960's from his pulpit at Wheat Street Baptist Church. The lesson was clear and I add my voice today to those of the GLBT community. Every individual deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

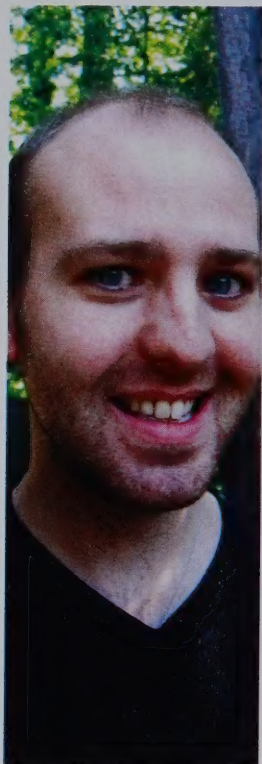
On behalf of the City of Atlanta and the Atlanta City Council, I offer best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,
Lisa M. Borders
President,
Atlanta City Council



honorable
lisa
borders
city council
president

welcome: from the pride board



**jeremy
bishop**
*chair,
atlanta pride
committee inc.*

WELCOME TO THE ATLANTA PRIDE FESTIVAL!

This year's theme, Our Rights, Your Rights, Human Rights has dramatically influenced the way we have approached our 2006-2007 year. As a Board, we have worked together to bring new, exciting events to our local community, have participated in regional and international events to gain experience, and are working with the Festival Committee to bring new, exciting elements to this year's Pride event.

Last fall, several representatives from Atlanta Pride had the opportunity to attend the InterPride conference and met Pride organizers from all over the globe. Some Pride events take place in areas where police protection is inadequate, the right to gather is denied, and a host of anti-LGBT groups hurl insults and stones at those who simply want to be proud of who they are. This struck a powerful chord among those who attended this conference and motivated our organization in the planning of this year's festival.

We have made many great strides this year to honor our mission of Self Esteem, Unity and Visibility as a Board of Directors. From our additions to the Board of an amazing Transgender activist, gender parity of our Vice Presidents, and racial diversity on our board—to the volunteer efforts in activities such as our Habitat for Humanity build—we are trying to impact our local community in a positive manner. In addition, we have hosted many fun events for the community, including Sister Act the Musical Night Out. The Atlanta Pride Board of Directors has dedicated itself to developing events to keep our community engaged throughout the year, because Pride is more than just June.

Whether you are from the metro Atlanta area or from out of town, are here for the entertainment, market, Commitment Ceremony, Pride Prom, to be an activist, or simply here to have fun, we welcome you, and hope you will enjoy your time with us.

Thank you for the pleasure of serving you, and have a great Pride!

Jeremy Bishop
*Board of Directors
Chair*

welcome: from the pride committee

GREETINGS!

Welcome to the 37th Annual Atlanta Pride Celebration, the largest PRIDE event in the Southeast, and one of the largest in the country. This weekend represents the culmination of thousands of volunteer hours put forth by the Committee, Board, and Staff of APC. In adding up the volunteer hours, the Festival Committee and Board put in roughly 7,800 hours of planning and work prior to the event. Another 3,500 volunteer hours are required of the 400+ volunteers helping with setup, the weekend's festivities, and breakdown. I want to personally thank the Festival Committee, Board of Directors, and our PRIDE weekend volunteers for their time and talents they so willingly give to produce this amazing weekend! When you see the various people who help put on this event – the folks in the many different colors of event staff t-shirts – please thank them as well. They do it because they care about our community and this is their gift to all of us!!!!

I have had the honor of working for the Atlanta Pride Committee since 1995 and have seen this event grow in size and scope. I have had the good fortune to be able to work with the most talented and dedicated staff anyone could hope for. Trisha Clymore has the amazing gift of attention to detail that ensures every aspect of putting on the festival is rock solid. Thanks Trisha!!! Jennifer Sheffield wears many hats as an APC employee, and I am most proud of the work she has put into the production of this magazine. Jennifer you really outdid yourself, thanks!! Paul Gibson keeps me in check by managing the finances, and Tad Gardocki keeps me out of trouble. Thanks guys!!

So, here we are, set to celebrate another PRIDE weekend. The theme the committee selected for this year is, "Our Rights, Your Rights, Human Rights." I hope you will take the time to visit the Human Rights display in the park, and learn about the global struggle to achieve equality, to live openly, and to live in safety. In the US, we fight for the right to marry. In other parts of the world, LGBT people are fighting for their lives – to live free from religious or government persecution. We must find a way to continue our fight for full equality while also supporting our brothers and sisters around the world in their struggle for survival. This work must continue, long after this weekend is over. So perhaps you will be inspired by your experience at PRIDE this year to join an LGBT organization, to volunteer your time, or to work on a political campaign. Please do something...for yourself and for the betterment of the LGBT community.

Yours in PRIDE,

Donna Narducci,
Executive Director



**donna
narducci**
*executive director,
atlanta pride
committee inc.*

2007 event staff | board of directors



**donna
narducci**
executive director



**trisha
clymore**
assistant director



**paul
gibson**
finance director



**jennifer
sheffield**
director of programs



**jeremy
bishop**
board | chair



**tony
kearney**
board | secretary



**deirdre
heffernan**
board | vp



**rafer
johnson**
board | vp



**tracee
mcdaniel**
board

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Provide interpreting services for Deaf People. Address accessibility issues throughout the festival and park grounds. Staff accessible seating area in front of the Coca-Cola Stage. Committee Chairs and Stage interpreters are fluent and certified in American Sign Language.

BACKSTAGE SECURITY

Responsible for providing security for the backstage areas of entertainment venues in the Park. Handle any issues that may arise as well as securing artist preparation areas.

CREATIVE/GRAPHICS

Responsible for advertising campaigns. Signage for the Park. The annual PRIDE magazine and map. Coordinates the Event Logo selection and T-shirt design process. Provides graphics input and support for the Atlanta Pride Committee.

ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews and selects artists, speakers and groups for entertainment on the stages. Maintains and adheres to the schedule for the weekend, insuring that events occur as designated.

2007 festival committee



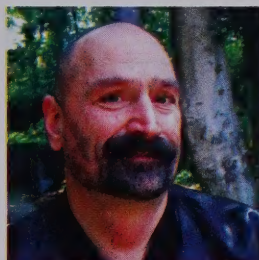
**donna
flanders**
*accessibility
services*



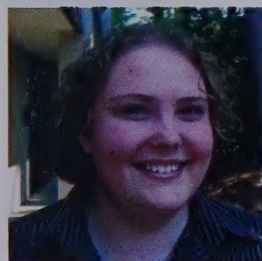
**jon
shive**
*accessibility
services*



**sharon
price**
*backstage
security*



**al
pellenberg**
*creative
director*



**jamie
fergerson**
entertainment



**tim
garrett**
festival services



**carlton
harrington**
festival services



**jennifer
reasor**
gate security



**sharon
crane**
gate security



**mykel
brasile**
hospitality



**richard
maritt**
in-park donations

FESTIVAL SERVICES

Provides information to festival-goers, ranging from maps of the Park to history of the Atlanta Pride Committee and Festival. Coordinates sales and development of official Atlanta Pride merchandise.

GATE SECURITY

Secures entrances to the Park. Ensures that only authorized vehicles enter the Park. Responsible for roving the Park to keep an eye out for any issues that may arise. Works directly with the Atlanta Police Department.

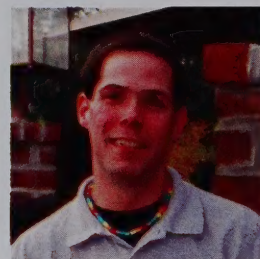
2007 festival committee



**dustin
brookshire**
in-park donations



**cain
williamson**
logistics



**sir brandan
barron**
logistics



**dr. travis
roth**
medical services



**linda
armstrong**
market



**kathy
newell**
market



**allyson
shaffer**
market

HOSPITALITY

Responsible for providing food for 400+ volunteers. Maintains VIP Center. Stocks food and beverages, and provides staffing for whatever needs arise.

IN-PARK DONATIONS

Responsible for coordination of fund collection in the Park and during the Parade. Coordinates groups, referred to as the "Bucket Brigade," to travel around the Park and collect donations.

LOGISTICS

Responsible for setup and breakdown of all areas of the Festival, from tents to tables to electricity. Coordinates deliveries and placement of everything in the Park. Works in conjunction with Operations Committee.

MARKET

Responsible for market booth placement and correspondence with vendors. Coordinates load-in and load-out of vendors. Ensures that vendors are supplied with correct numbers of tables, chairs and other supplies.

MEDICAL

Sets up and staffs First Aid Stations throughout the Park with certified medical personnel. Helps coordinate ambulance and other medical services.



ATLANTA URGENT CARE CENTER



**Some problems just can't wait...
... and that's why we're here**

When a minor medical problem becomes a major headache, look to us to get you back on track. Sometimes it takes days or even weeks to get an appointment with your regular physician. The average emergency department visit takes more than 4 hours.

Gay Owned & Operated

- ▼ Joint & limb injuries such as sprains, strains and broken bones
- ▼ Coughs, colds, pneumonia, sinusitis, sore throats and other respiratory issues
- ▼ Urinary tract infections
- ▼ Sexually transmitted diseases
- ▼ Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

- ▼ Minor trauma like burns, scrapes and cuts
- ▼ Skin conditions such as boils and warts
- ▼ Wellness exams; work physicals
- ▼ X-rays and some labs on-site
- ▼ Some prescription medications available in the office

Official Sponsor of 2007 Atlanta Pride

We Salute Our Rights, Your Rights, Human Rights

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www.atlantaurgentcare.com

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Embry Village Shopping Center In Front of Kroger



BRING THE PRESIDENTS TO PRIDE!

For 37 years Atlanta Pride has been free to the public, and you can keep that tradition alive!

Before you come to the park, check and see if:

George,

Tom,

Abe,

or Alexander

can come with you.

The PRIDE Committee thanks YOU in advance for YOUR generous contributions!

HAPPY PRIDE EVERYONE!

great taste
has its benefits

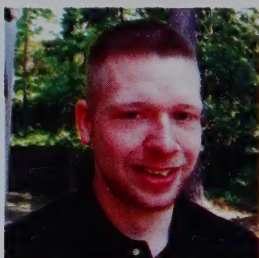


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vitamins and minerals

2007 festival committee



**greg
barreft**
operations



**roy
wilson, jr**
operations



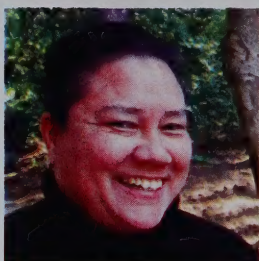
**betty
couvertier**
*outreach
dyke march*



**glen paul
freedman**
*related events
VIP party*



**sabrina
reasor**
parade



**susan
floyd**
parade



**tim
black**
volunteers



**darie
kidwell**
volunteers

OPERATIONS

Manages inventory of permanent and rental items. Maintains Operations Center. Handles triage of logistical needs, security, personnel, market, and other requests. Manages deliveries during the Festival and monitors the Park. Works in conjunction with the Logistics Committee.

OUTREACH

Coordinates participants and logistics of the Dyke March. Works in conjunction with YouthPride to put on the Pride Prom. Coordinates Literary Event.

RELATED EVENTS

Coordinates Saturday night's VIP Party. Handles all details of the party including, but not limited to: ticketing, speakers, and entertainment.

PARADE

Responsible for coordination of and communication with parade entrants. Handles logistics of parade assembly. Responsible for locating judges and coordinating gifts for winners of parade competitions.

VOLUNTEERS

Responsible for recruitment and retention of volunteers. Coordinates scheduling of volunteers for events. Handles all volunteer requests during the Festival, placing volunteers in areas where they are needed most. Works in conjunction with all other committee co-chairs.

MY FAVORITE MECHANIC IS A WOMAN!



Hours

Monday - Friday

8am - 5pm

(late night drop off
available)

Proudly Serving Our Community For 15 Years

We do:

- ▼ Tune-Ups
- ▼ Struts
- ▼ Brakes
- ▼ Air conditioning
- ▼ Tires
- ▼ Alignments
- ▼ Clutches
- ▼ Transmissions
- ▼ Warranty Work
- ▼ Computerized Emissions
Diagnosis & Repairs
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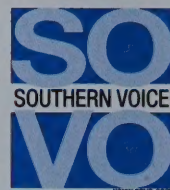
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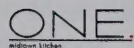
gold



CALIFORNIA CHAMPAGNE



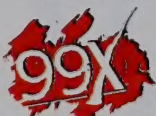
GET READY FOR SOMETHING BIG JULY 2007



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WaMu



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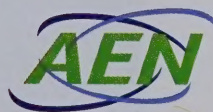
silver



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community partners



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MIDTOWN ATLANTA



SUCCUMB
Magazine

instinct
MAGAZINE

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Atlanta
magazine

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3 oz. Cola

Serve in tall glass over ice





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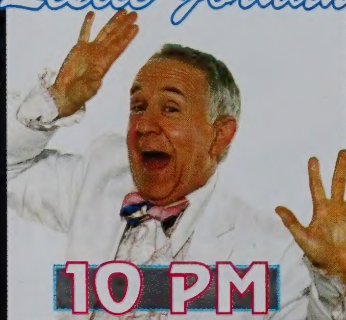
www.MSQproductions.com

HOEDOWNS



Friday

Leslie Jordan



10 PM

Charlie Brown



11:30 PM

Lady Chablis



WITH SPECIAL GUEST

The Goddess Raven

Saturday

Open Dance
Home of Country

all night

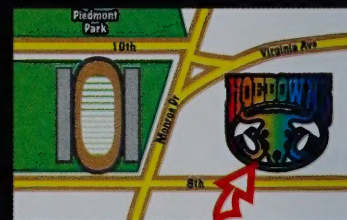


931 Monroe Drive

404.876.0001

www.hoedownsatlanta.com

www.myspace.com/hoedownsatlanta



2007 event logo: david foote

I was attracted to the challenge to create a graphic that incorporated so many elements. When I first read the theme, I interpreted “Our Rights, Your Rights, Human Rights” as a call to action, a exclamation of equality, pride and perseverance.

A flag is typically raised to symbolize pride, defiance and/or triumph. The gay flag was a natural choice for a graphic image but it needed to be represented in a different, interesting way that would be appealing on a shirt and in print. With bold brush strokes of color, I wanted to represent a worn, “battle tested” flag waving proudly in the face of resistance and emphasizing assertiveness. I put it on a slant to imply movement, perhaps symbolizing a march.

I chose Trajan as a font for the text. The formality and symmetry of the font juxtaposed against the textured, angled flag heightens the sense of movement with the words abstractly representing the uniformity of the front line of a parade or protest.

I am proud to contribute a “small part” to Atlanta Pride.

Thank you...



OUR RIGHTS YOUR RIGHTS
HUMAN RIGHTS
ATLANTA PRIDE FESTIVAL 2007



**david
foote**

*chair, advertising design
savannah college of art and design
atlanta*

related and co-sponsored events

FRIDAY JUNE 22

PRIDE AND TWO MOVIES 6PM

The Coca-Cola Stage

SORDID LIVES



*MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN
OF GOOD AND EVIL*

Sponsored by: *Hoedowns*

With special hosts:

Lesile Jordan, The Lady Chablis & Charlie Brown.

Please arrive by 5PM to claim your space. Movies start promptly at 6PM.

YOUTHPRIDE PROM 8PM

The Pool House



The YouthPride Prom is a youth-only, alcohol-free, safe dance celebration. This is a free, non-ticketed event. No one over the age of 24 will be admitted unless serving as a volunteer chaperone. For more info: www.youthpride.org

COMMITMENT CEREMONY 8PM

Magnolia Hall

Produced by *Atlanta Couples Together*

Sponsored by *Worthmore Jewelers*

This non-denominational ceremony gives couples



the opportunity to pledge their commitment to each other publicly before friends and family. This public commitment is a powerful statement about a couple's relationship and their devotion to each other. There is no fee for attending the ceremony. Couples that wish to register will pay a small fee. Cash bar is available onsite.

For more information about the Commitment Ceremony or to register please go to:
www.atlantacouplestogether.org

When you purchase your rings from Worthmore, a percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the Atlanta Pride Committee.

www.worthmorejewelers.com for more information or call: 404-892-8294.

WANT TO KNOW MORE:

www.youthpride.org

www.atlantacouplestogether.org

www.worthmorejewelers.com

www.aidsquilt.org

www.lcc-dogwood.org

SATURDAY JUNE 23

CHILDREN'S SHOW 10 – 11:30AM

Magnolia Hall Patio

Fun for the whole family! This all-ages event features some of the best storytellers *Little Shop of Stories* has to offer and a rockin' performance from *Henslee & Kenslee*. Parents, although the Magnolia Patio is very shady, we recommend sunscreen for the little ones. Free water will be provided. This show is interpreted for our Deaf patrons.

AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT DISPLAY

12:30-4PM

The Meadow

Co-Sponsored by *The Names Project Foundation*



Several panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed in the Meadow (Tenth Street & Charles Allen). Please take time to see this incredible, and ever growing, folk art project that honors loved ones lost to AIDS. Read "Remember Me" to learn more about this important memorial.

LAMBDA CAR SHOW 12:30-5PM

14th Street Gate Area



This annual display features a variety of vintage vehicles for your enjoyment. The Lambda Car Club is an international group of GLBT car enthusiasts. www.lcc-dogwood.org

ROCK, RHYTHM AND RHYME CAFÉ

2:15-5PM

The WaMu Stage

Co-Produced by:

Alternative Perspectives & Felicity Nuance



Join us for the fourth annual literary showcase: ROCK, RHYTHM, AND RHYME CAFÉ. This event is filled with spoken word and music from independent artists throughout the Atlanta community.

In addition to performing during the showcase, the performers can also be found during the weekend promoting and selling their products at our vendor's booth located near the WaMu stage.

related and co-sponsored events

SATURDAY JUNE 23

THEATRE ON THE LAKE 3PM-5PM Park Welcome Center Dock



Come OUT and see some of our favorite local theatre talent! This event features short performances of shows currently running in the Atlanta area, and is a great way to get the latest information on GLBT friendly acting troupes and venues.

VIP PARTY 6:30PM-8:30PM Magnolia Hall

Invitation Only

Sponsored by Delta Air Lines, Concentrics Restaurant Group, and Stacy's Pita Chips.

The "Black-Tie event you attend in shorts." This annual "thank you" party for our Friends of Pride (FOP) donors and Festival Sponsors offers fantastic food, drinks, and even better company. We encourage each of you to become an official FOP before Pride weekend, as there will only be a limited supply of tickets available for sale in the park. Visit: www.atlantapride.org/friends for more information.

SUNDAY JUNE 24

THE PRIDE PARADE 1PM

Sponsored by Delta Air Lines

Kick-off - Marta Civic Center Station

Assembly begins at 10:30am

See page 80 for more information.

CONGRESSMAN JOHN LEWIS 3PM The Coca-Cola Stage



Georgia's 5th district Representative and Civil Rights pioneer takes the stage to speak out on equal rights for all Americans. Congressman Lewis has dedicated his life to the fight for equality, and the Atlanta Pride Committee is honored to welcome him to the festival.

YOUTHPRIDE ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE 5:15PM

The WaMu Stage

Featuring *Bria*

This brand new event will showcase the very best in young, up-and-coming talent. Come show your support for these OUT musicians, spoken word artists, drag performers, and speakers. This program features Bria, who has composed over 400 songs while still in her teens.

friday, june 22 6pm

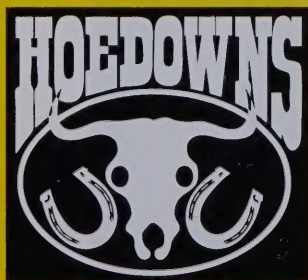


PRIDE AND TWO MOVIES
featuring
Sordid Lives
&
***Midnight in the
Garden of Good and Evil***

WITH SPECIAL HOSTS:
Leslie Jordan, The Lady Chablis, Charlie Brown

Please Arrive by 5pm and claim your space!
Shows start at 6pm sharp.

Sponsored by Hoedowns



coca-cola stage line up



mosadi music



heidi hensley
with
holly belle



13 Stories



jason &
deMarco



Three5Human



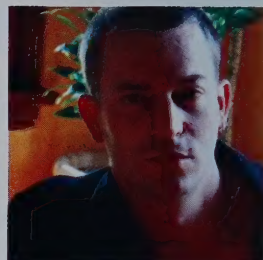
antigone
rising



rep.
john lewis



ira
levi



levi
kreis



deborah
gibson



michel
jons band



the starlight
cabaret



Schedule subject to change without notice.
Please refer to park signage for the most up-to-date information.

coca-cola schedule



FRIDAY, JUNE 22

6PM Pride & 2 Movies

featuring

Sordid Lives

&

*Midnight in the Garden
of Good and Evil*

hosts

Leslie Jordan, Lady Chablis,
Charlie Brown

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

3PM Mosadi Music

4PM Heidi Hensley w/ Holly Belle

5PM Jason & deMarco

6PM 13 Stories

6:55PM After August

8:15PM Three5Human

9:35PM Antigone Rising

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

3PM Congressman John Lewis

3:30PM Stoni Taylor

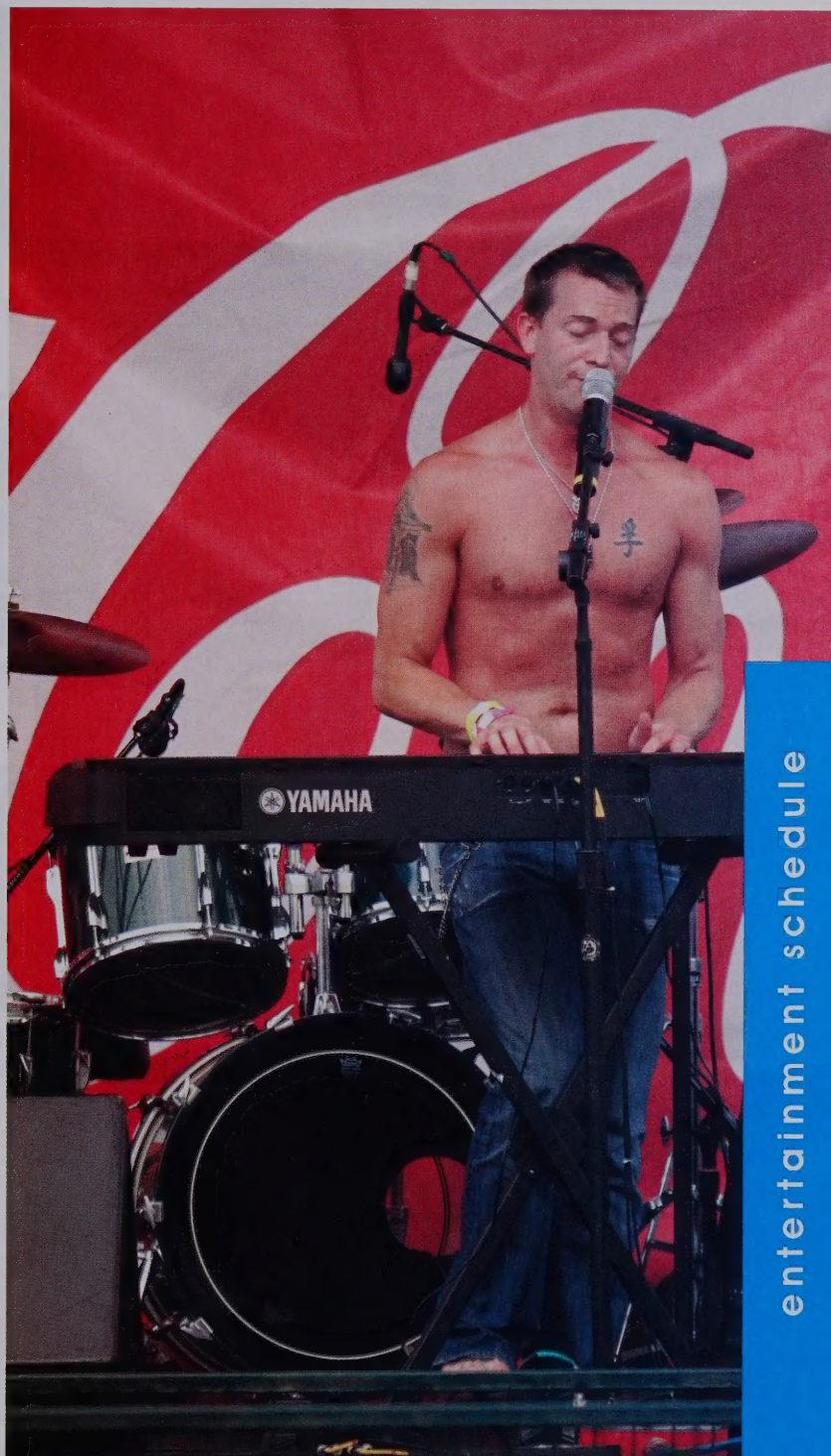
4:25PM Ira Levi

5:15PM Levi Kreis

6:10PM Deborah Gibson

7:10PM Michel Jons Band

8:30PM The Starlight Cabaret



wamu line up



the jolee
project



jessi
lynn



eric
himan



butterfly
stitch



deb
hunseder



morgan
rowe



athens boys
choir



dj robbie
russell



carey
sherrell



tiffany
washington



social
insecurity



dalyrical



bria

Schedule subject to change without notice.
Please refer to park signage for the most up-to-date information.

wamu schedule



WaMu

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

6:45PM The Jolee Project

7:30PM Jessi Lynn

8:20PM Eric Himan

9:10PM Butterfly Stitch

10:05PM Deb Hunseder

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

12:30PM Morgan Rowe

1:15PM Athens Boys Choir

2:15PM Rock, Rhythm, & Rhyme Café

5:30PM DJ Robbie Russell

6:00PM Blue Motion Squared

Swimwear Fashion Show

featuring

Carey Sherrell

of "The Apprentice"

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

3:00PM Social Insecurity

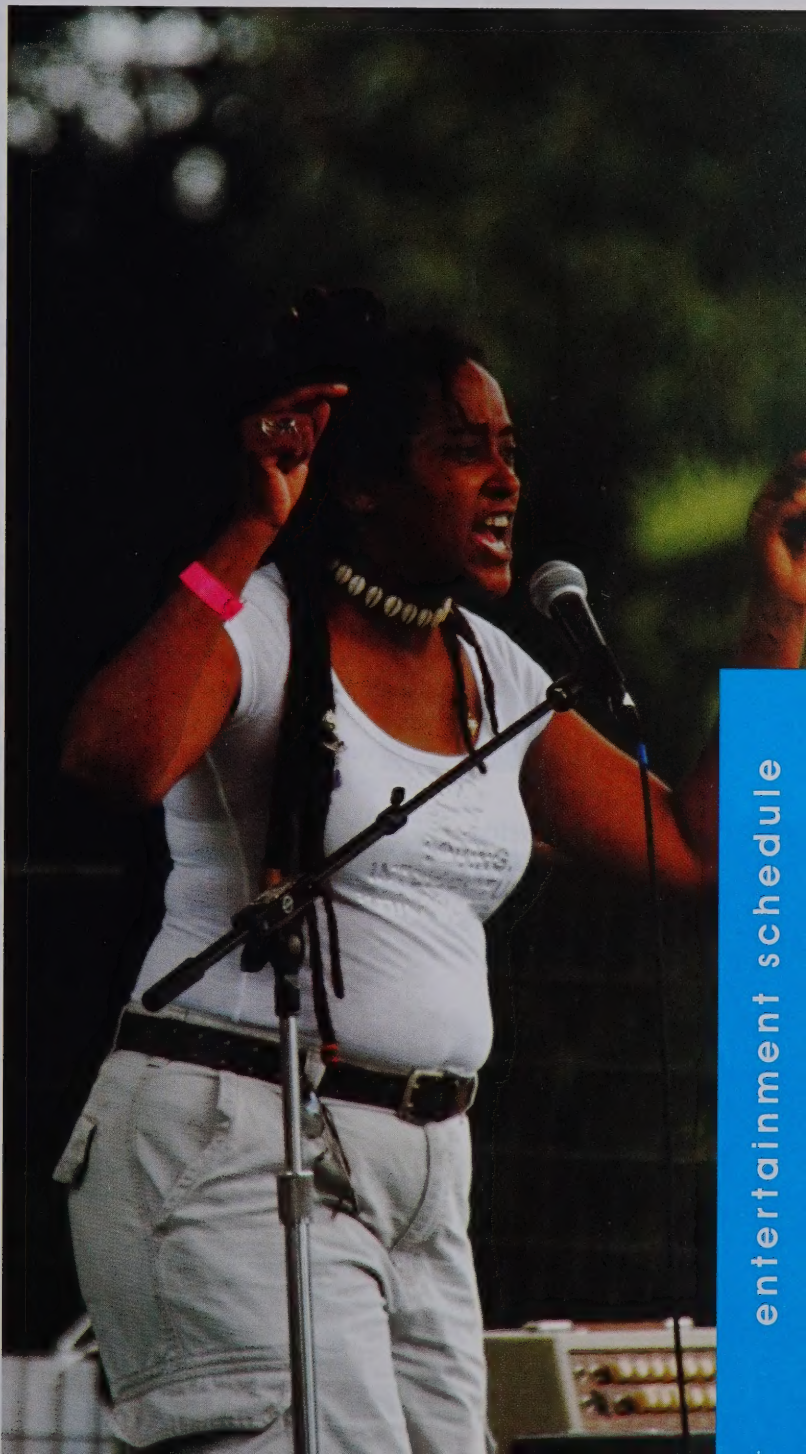
3:45PM Tiffany Washington

4:30PM DaLyrical

5:15PM YouthPride Entertainment Block

featuring

Bria



entertainment schedule

grand marshal: pastor bradley schmeling



pastor
bradley
schmeling

Pastor Bradley E. Schmeling currently serves as the Senior Pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, on Ponce de Leon Avenue in Atlanta. Prior to his call to St. John's, Bradley worked in the Office of the Chapel and Religious Life at Emory University, where he worked toward a doctoral degree in pastoral care and ritual studies. A graduate of Ohio University, Athens, he went on to receive his Master of Divinity degree at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. Ordained in 1989 by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Bradley was called to serve Calvary Lutheran Church, Columbus, Ohio, where he came out by visiting every member of his congregation. He has served as an openly gay member of the clergy roster since 1992.

In August 2006, Bishop Ron Warren of the Southeastern Synod, ELCA, filed charges against Pastor Schmeling because he had entered a life-long, committed relationship with Pastor Darin Easler, formerly a Lutheran pastor now in ministerial standing with the United Church of Christ. Following a five-day church trial in January 2007, a disciplinary committee voted to remove Pastor Schmeling from the clergy roster of the ELCA, but not before suggesting that the policy that precludes "practicing homosexuals" from the ordained ministry should be changed. The committee also set the date for Pastor Schmeling's removal after the denomination's national meeting this summer, hoping that the policy can be changed before Pastor Schmeling is removed. Pastor Schmeling has appealed the decision, calling the church's policy "a bad policy and likely unconstitutional." The bishop has since cross-appealed, attempting to remove Pastor Schmeling before the August 15th date set by the committee.

In the meantime, Pastor Schmeling continues to serve in his very supportive congregation in Atlanta. In the last seven years, the congregation has grown dramatically in worship attendance and in giving, even though the national Lutheran denomination continues to lose members. St. John's Lutheran Church is clear in its commitment to be a church that welcomes all people.

LEARN MORE ABOUT:

Pastor Schmeling and St. John's Lutheran Church
WWW.STJOHNSATLANTA.ORG

grand marshal: aida rentas

After living in cities such as Denver, San Francisco, and New York City, Aida Rentas moved to the Southeast in search of warmer weather. She arrived on the Atlanta scene in 1992 and immediately jumped into the social and political life here. Aida joined Fourth Tuesday (a social/support network for lesbian/bi/trans women), founded the group Latinos En Acción, joined the founding board of the Georgia Equality Project, was on the Gay & Lesbian Liaison Committee for Mayor Bill Campbell, AND headed a panel for The Civilian Review Board. With dedication, and an incredible community activism resume, Aida began training with the Victory Fund to prepare to run for public office.

In 1996, Aida's life was forever changed by a tragic accident. Shortly after speaking at the Atlanta Pride Festival, she was struck down by a Mack truck on Peachtree Street. Aida was very lucky to be alive, but she was unable to work or be as active in the community. These trying times gave her the opportunity to reflect on her life. Aida took a less visible role in political life, but continued to work diligently behind the scenes. She took an active part in developing and bringing to life the Gay & Lesbian Visitors Center for the 1996 Olympics and the "Olympics out of Cobb County" protest. Aida received the 1996 Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Community Award that same year.

After spending many years as the Volunteer Coordinator for The National Black Arts Festival (NBAF), Aida resigned to become Outreach Coordinator for The Names Project (The AIDS Memorial Quilt). Following a very successful run working with the Quilt, Aida moved on in December of 2005 to found The Grass Roots Institute, which she currently runs. The mission of this non-profit organization is to support children of single parents during their spring, summer, and winter breaks from school. The Grass Roots Institute provides arts and cultural programming taught by local and professional artists. Her belief that we all need to be involved in our community and political processes still drives her today, as she serves as Mayor Shirley Franklin's Volunteer Coordinator.

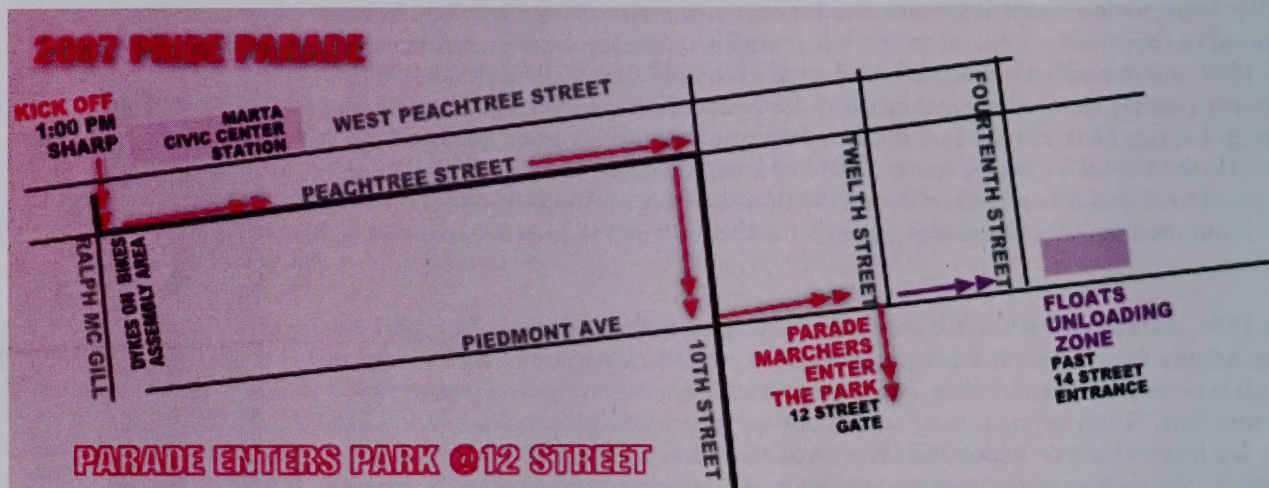


aida
rentas

LEARN MORE ABOUT:

The Grass Roots Institute
WWW.GRASSROOTSINST.NET

parade: sponsor delta air lines



KICK OFF

Sunday, June 23rd at 1:00 PM Sharp,

Assembly begins at 10:30AM

The Parade will step off from the MARTA Civic Center Station on Sunday, June 24, at 1:00pm.



MARCHERS

There is no fee to march in the parade; however, you must register to be in the line-up.

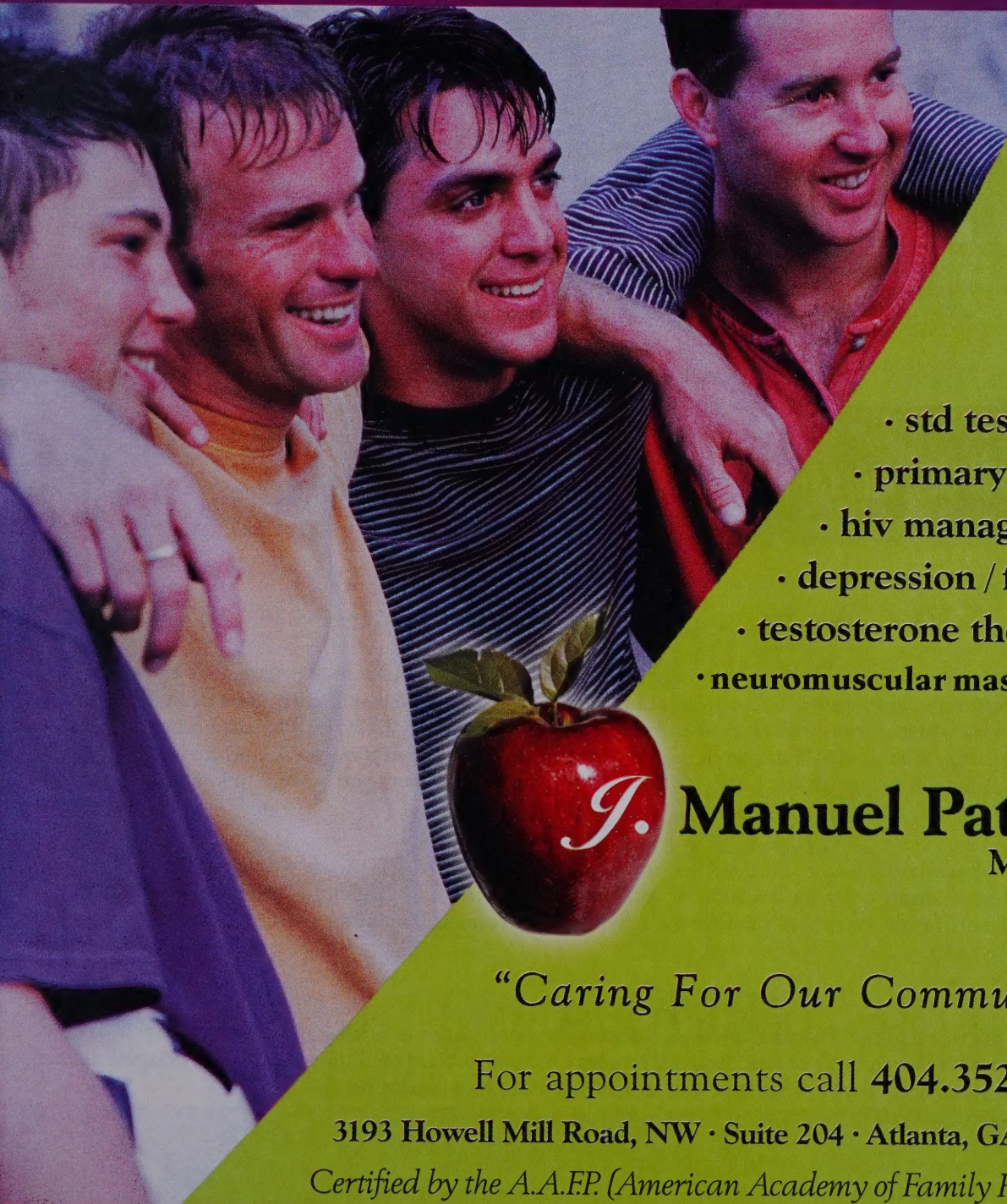
FLOATS

The Atlanta Pride Committee would like to encourage groups to showcase their organization/business through a float. It is the one-time of the year you can promote yourselves in front of the entire community. You may be surprised at the interest and excitement an entry in the Pride Parade can give to your organization. Please visit www.atlantapride.org/info/parade for fees and regulations.

SECURITY

Please be advised that the Atlanta Police Department is responsible for enforcing all applicable state laws and local ordinances during Pride events. Such statutes may include, but are not limited to: public decency, alcohol, controlled substances, public safety, and standard vehicle insurance requirements.

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J.

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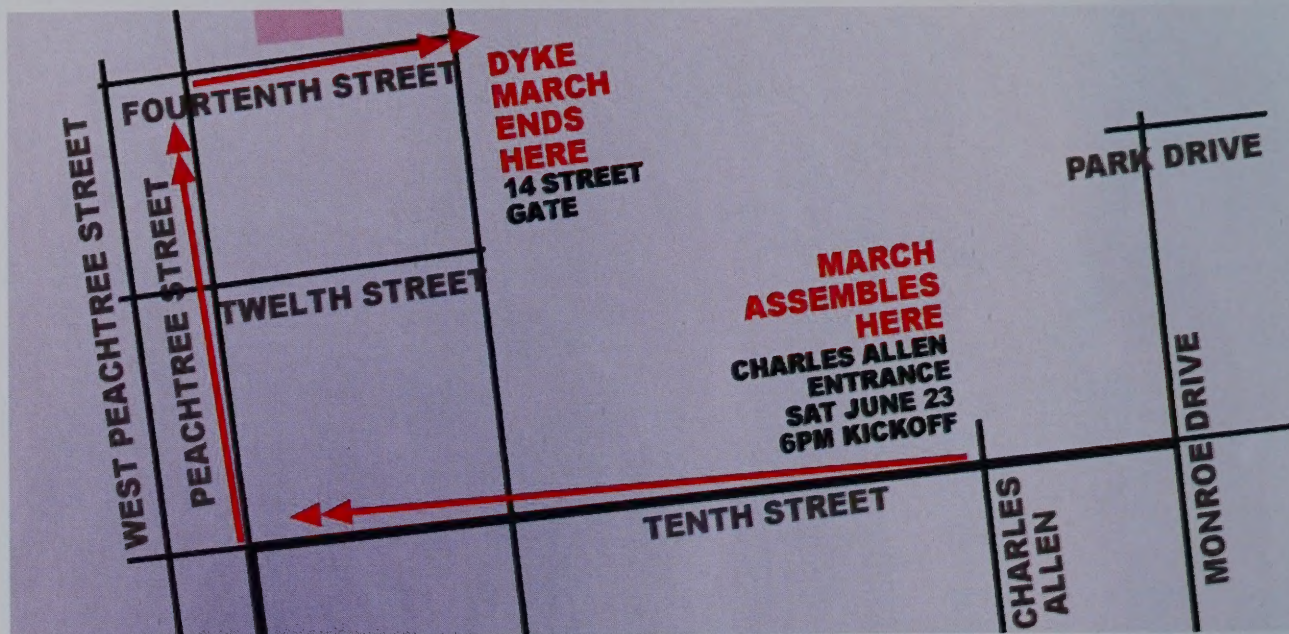
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dyke march



KICK OFF

Saturday, June 23rd at 6:00 PM Sharp, gather at the Charles Allen Gate @ 5:30

This year's march is dedicated to the empowerment of the women of Atlanta and beyond...The Dyke March, with its focus on women, unites to create an atmosphere of inclusion and community. The march is open to all women loving women (trans-inclusive) of any race, culture, orientation, ability, health, socio-economic level, family structure, faith or age! This march is a time to demonstrate our commitment to nurture and build a new tomorrow, united for equality and justice. We call on all women of Atlanta and beyond to join us as we march.

ROUTE

The Dyke March begins at the Charles Allen entrance of Piedmont Park. It travels west up 10th Street to Peachtree Street, turns north on Peachtree Street, then east on 14th Street and heads back into Piedmont Park where the march ends. It is approximately 1.2 miles and takes about 35 minutes.

SECURITY

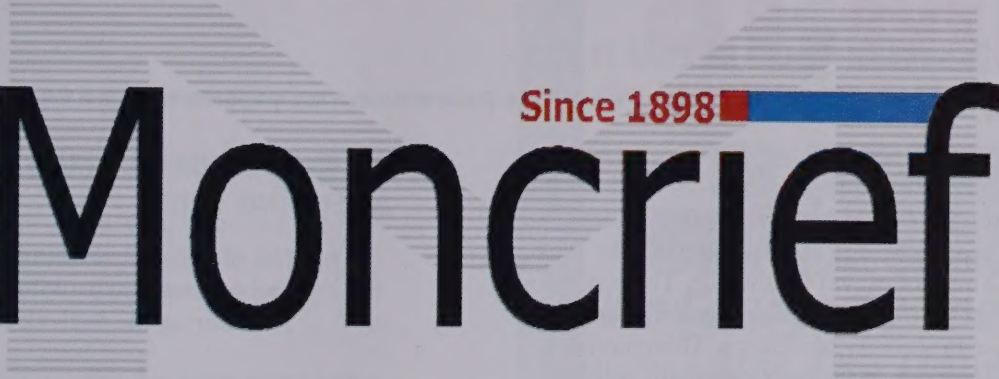
Please be advised that the Atlanta Police Department is responsible for enforcing all applicable state laws and local ordinances during Pride events. Such statutes may include, but are not limited to: public decency, alcohol, controlled substances, public safety and standard vehicle insurance requirements.

WANT TO LEARN MORE:

e-mail: info@atlantapride.org

www.atlantapride.org/info/parade/dyke_march

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festival guidelines

PERSONAL TENTS

Tents cannot be staked into the ground; they have to be weighted in accordance with the City of Atlanta Festival Ordinance. There is also a “no overnight camping in public parks” ordinance in the City of Atlanta. Therefore, any personal tent left in the park overnight will be discarded.

GRILLING OUT/BBQ'ING

The use of grills and BBQ's during any festival is not permitted in accordance with the festival ordinance!

NO PETS ALLOWED

No pets are allowed in the park during a large festival per the City of Atlanta Festival Ordinance passed December of 2003. Service dogs are exempt from this ordinance.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Alcoholic beverages are sold within the festival grounds. You must present proper ID to purchase alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic beverages purchased at the event remain on-site.

BOTTLES, CANS & COOLER POLICY

Bringing outside beverages, coolers or food into the festival grounds is discouraged. The money generated by our onsite beverage booths goes toward keeping the Atlanta Pride Festival FREE for all attendees. Please note, per the City of Atlanta: Glass bottles are prohibited within the festival grounds.

RULES TO ABIDE BY WHILE ATTENDING PRIDE

- Use of bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, and scooters are prohibited in Piedmont Park during the festival.
- Unauthorized vendors are prohibited from selling or giving away items, and from conducting surveys or solicitations while on the festival grounds.
- Please be advised that the Atlanta Police Department is responsible for enforcing all applicable state laws and local ordinances during Pride events. Such statutes may include, but are not limited to: public decency, alcohol, controlled substances, public safety, and standard vehicle insurance requirements.

LOST CHILDREN AND LOST & FOUND

We do not operate a lost and found service. Lost children should be taken to the Coca-Cola® stage, and every effort will be made to locate the child's parent or guardian.

ATM LOCATIONS

ATMs can be found at the Charles Allen entrance, the pool house, the 12th Street entrance, and at the bridge by the lake.

FIRST AID

First Aid is available on-site and qualified medical personnel will assist you. If you are feeling ill or get injured, please seek help at one of these three locations: the Charles Allen entrance, the pool house, and the 12th Street entrance.

PRIDE INFORMATION & MERCHANDISE

Information and official Pride merchandise are available at the Festival Services booths located at: the Charles Allen entrance, the pool house, and the 12th Street entrance.

VIP SEATING AT THE COCA-COLA® STAGE

The Coca-Cola® stage is located in the meadows near 10th street and the Charles Allen gate. Fenced-in VIP seating is directly in front of the stage. To find out how you can qualify for VIP seating visit: www.atlantapride.org/friends.

VIP CENTER & MAGNOLIA HALL

The VIP Center is available for sponsors and certain levels of Friends of Pride donors. The center is located at the back of the parking lot near the tennis courts. To find out how you can qualify for the VIP center visit: www.atlantapride.org/friends.

FESTIVAL OPERATIONS

Festival Operations is located across from the pool house in the pavilion.

EVENT STAFF

Pride event staff will be in bright pink t-shirts. Should you need assistance in any way, please find someone in an Event Staff shirt, and we'll be happy to help you!

NOTICE:

The Atlanta Pride Committee, as the event organizer, reserves the right to decline admittance to anyone who violates the reasonable policies established for public safety or to restrict activities, such as public address, to designated areas.

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accessibility services

TRAVELING TO THE PARK

- There are 10 parking spaces designated as “accessible parking” in the Park Drive lot reserved for appropriately marked vehicles only. These parking spaces are first come, first served.
- MARTA’s Arts Center Station is the nearest train station to Piedmont Park. If possible, please consider using the rail line in order to reserve accessible parking spaces for those with limited stamina.

ENJOYING THE PARK

- There are accessible, portable restrooms (with floors flush to the ground) located throughout the park.
- Accessible seating is located near the front of the Coca-Cola® stage for you and your guests.
- If you need a recharge for your mobility device, we are happy to provide access to electricity in the Operations Center.
- If you have a medical emergency, please go to a Medical Services tent. A certified ASL interpreter will be provided if needed.

ENJOYING THE PARADE

- Registration is free for individuals and groups on foot or using mobility devices. Please register in advance to participate in the Parade: atlantapride.org/info/parade
- The Atlanta Pride Committee does not have reserve parking for the parade, as our permit only covers the streets. However, there are numerous pay lots along the parade route.
- If you have an emergency while on the parade route, find the nearest Atlanta Police officer to request assistance.

INTERPRETED PERFORMANCES

- All performances on the Coca-Cola® stage, as well as the Saturday morning Children’s Show, are interpreted.
- Performances on the WAMU stage are interpreted by request only: accessibility@atlantapride.org

VOLUNTEERS

- We welcome Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing/signing volunteers.
- Please fill out the volunteer application online or visit Volunteer Check-In on Pride weekend.



first aid information

WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU GET SICK OR HURT?

There are THREE FIRST AID STATIONS sponsored by *Atlanta Urgent Care Center* located conveniently throughout the park in case of minor illness or injury. The stations are staffed by trained medical personnel. The stations carry over-the-counter medications and various bandages for minor mishaps. For those Festival-goers who may need more urgent attention, Southern Ambulance Company is on-site for transport to the closest emergency room.

Follow these easy tips to ensure that you have a safe and enjoyable time at the Festival,

DRINK PLENTY OF NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. HYDRATE!

The First Aid stations see many people each year for heat exhaustion and dehydration; many have to go to the ER. Just remember, temperatures at the end of June can top 100 degrees. Most people do a significant amount of walking about the park during the Festival and lose a tremendous amount of fluid from sweating. Stay hydrated, and you'll be sure to have fun!

TAKE YOUR PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.

If your doctor has prescribed medications for you, remember to bring them with you to take if you will be at the park during the times you normally take them. Also be aware of any side effects your medications may have, such as sensitivity to the sun, and heed your doctor's or pharmacist's advice.

DON'T TAKE ANY MEDICATIONS THAT AREN'T PRESCRIBED TO YOU.

Illicit drugs or abuse of prescriptions can cause a real nightmare for you during the Festival. Not only can they blur your enjoyment, but the mixture of drugs, heat, and lack of hydration could cause serious medical problems.



ENJOY, BUT IN MODERATION.

Alcohol intoxication can make the Festival much less enjoyable if it leads to nausea or vomiting, falls, passing out, or even DUI. If you intend to partake of the many alcoholic beverages available, be sure to drink other fluids as well, as alcohol is a mild diuretic and can lead to dehydration.

CONSIDER YOUR LIMITATIONS.

Many attendees have limitations in their ability to walk long distances. The Festival is large and covers a lot of ground. If you think you might need assistance, consider renting a wheelchair before coming to the Festival. Many people are fine when they arrive, but then find they have difficulty getting back to their car. The Atlanta Pride Committee and First Aid staff cannot provide rides or transportation to your car, so plan accordingly.

SLATHER UP!

Be sure to put on that sunscreen, S.P.F. 45 or above. To avoid painful sunburns, stay in the shade of trees or tents whenever possible, and wear a hat with a wide brim.

DRESS SENSIBLY.

Wear loose-fitting clothes of breathable fabrics to prevent getting overheated. Bring a hat and sunglasses to protect your face and eyes. Remember: although those new shoes may be a real lady- or man-catcher, blisters from new shoes are a real downer while walking around the park.

volunteer team



FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Event Staff wear pink shirts throughout the weekend. These folks work year round on the event and are great resources for information.

LEAD VOLUNTEERS

These volunteers work all three days of the event and serve as “point people” for the festival committee. Lead volunteers wear blue shirts throughout the weekend.

FIRST AID

Trained medical staff are located throughout the festival grounds and are identified by their bright red shirts.



GATE SECURITY

Atlanta Pride security staff monitor all gates located in Piedmont Park. All security personnel (except APD officers) wear green shirts.

MARKET

Market volunteers wear orange shirts. They assist vendors throughout the weekend.

IN-PARK DONATIONS

In-Park Donations teams wear bright teal shirts. Please give generously! 50% of the money these folks raise goes back to their own nonprofit organizations.

GENERAL VOLUNTEERS

The 400+ people in yellow shirts you see throughout the festival grounds are our volunteers. Some work for 2 hours, some all weekend. The PRIDE Committee could not run the event without these folks!



special thanks to our volunteers



Every last full weekend of June, hundreds of thousands of people come together in Piedmont Park in Atlanta for two reasons: to celebrate Pride and participate in something greater than themselves. Every year, attendance at the Atlanta Pride Festival grows by leaps and bounds. This growth in attendance requires the support of many people in the community. Just as monetary support is important, so is volunteer support.

It takes over 400+ volunteers to make the Atlanta Pride Festival happen - from set up to break down, orchestrating vendors and keeping festivalgoers happy. Without volunteers, the Atlanta Pride Festival would not happen.

What you may not realize is that each of the Festival Committee members is also a volunteer! The Festival Committee meets monthly throughout the year, dedicating hours and hours of time to planning the June event.

Even with all of the planning that the Festival Committee does throughout the year, there are only 36 people total on the Committee, Board and Staff of Atlanta Pride. This number is currently

sufficient for planning purposes, but it is not feasible for actually making the Festival happen on-site.

The 400+ volunteers the Atlanta Pride Festival requires to run successfully are used in every aspect imaginable. Volunteers are used to staff gates for security, coordinate market vendors and assist at the stages. The Festival volunteers provide all levels of support and information to festivalgoers regarding the Festival and the Atlanta Pride Committee. They collect money and tend to the VIP Center. The range of work that the volunteers do is wide, and the spectrum of needs is as vast as the colors of the rainbow.

The Atlanta Pride Committee would like to extend a HUGE "Thank You" to all of those who selflessly dedicate their time to the Festival and those who will do so in the future. It is because of you that the Atlanta Pride Festival continues to be the free, fun and important event that it is every year!





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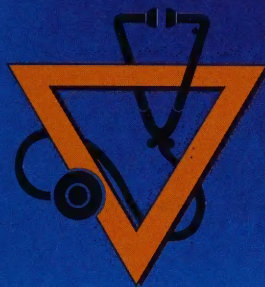
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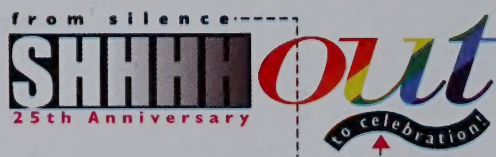
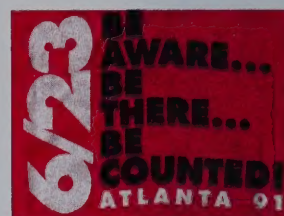
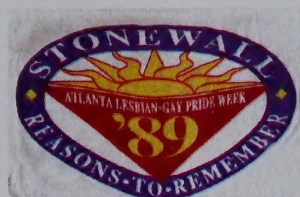
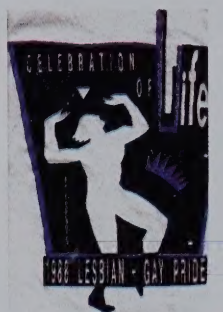


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through the years: 1988-1996



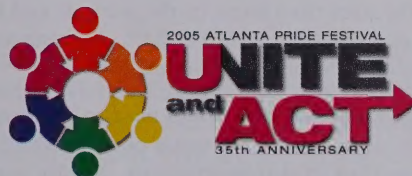
through the years: 1997-2006



Atlanta Pride
Celebration
June 2000 Piedmont Park



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youthpride essay winner: joshua



Joshua w. 19

Joshua is a native of Atlanta, Georgia. He came out to his friends and family at the age of 12. He would like to be a music teacher, plans to attend Georgia State University to major in Music Education. Joshua is a longtime member of YouthPride and is currently participating in the Center's Peer Staff Program.

I am not willing to just be tolerated. That wounds my love of love and liberty.

~ Jean Cocteau (1889-1963)

This quote speaks so much to me. It tells me that I should not settle for tolerance but strive for acceptance. My struggle for freedom has been an on-going battle between the world and myself. Today is the day for our community to end that battle, so we can come together for our rights, your rights, human rights.

I believe it is important for the voices of our youth to be heard, because we have a unique perspective on life. My friends and I have so much to say, but not a lot of people take the time listen to us.

When I'm asked what some of the challenges I face as a young person are, I give several answers. But when I'm asked what our community is doing to support youth like me, I have only one answer – YouthPride. Atlanta has the eighth largest gay population in the United States, but our community isn't providing enough support or resources for LGBT youth.

In the struggle to advance our rights as LGBT people, we constantly encounter bigotry from our own kind. A straight friend once told me that he thought that most gay bashing is done by our own; meaning we are constantly fighting with ourselves and with one another. I believe that is true. How am I supposed to explain to my peers why a gay man was beaten and robbed by a group of gay men? I can't. We might not realize that we are becoming a danger to ourselves, but we are when we treat one another (and ourselves) with disrespect and when adults disrespect youth by silencing our voices.

If we don't do something to stop these dangerous attitudes and actions, then we won't be able to speak together as one, and our voices as a community will not be heard. Also, our image will be destroyed, and we will fall short of achieving our rights.

I believe that adults play a very important part in our community. We need more adults who are willing to do more than stand by the wayside and let our youth do as they please. As the saying goes, "It takes a village to raise a child." As teenagers and young adults, we look to older LGBT people for guidance – guidance, not exploitation.

In conclusion, our voices as youth need to be heard in the struggle for our rights, your rights, human rights. Our community needs our voices to be heard. We need more support, and we need those who support us to also believe in us. We are important, and we are just as much a part this community and this world as anyone else. What goes on in this world impacts us a lot, maybe more than adults because we, as the future, live by the consequences of adults' actions.

WANT TO LEARN MORE:

Youthpride is a community center and organization working to empower and create positive change in the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth age 13-24 through education, outreach, support services, community activities,

youthpride essay winner: dexter

Queer!: Why being Gay is being Great

For centuries, people of the Christian faith or anyone influenced by the Abrahamic religions (i.e., Christianity, Islam, and Judaism), have looked upon homosexuality as a sin, condemned by God, and a crime against nature. Of course, this is a result of literal interpretation of religious text, as well as general ignorance and rejection of mainstream science.

Homosexuality is common in the animal kingdom. Some of the greatest figures in history had meaningful and lasting same-sex relationships.

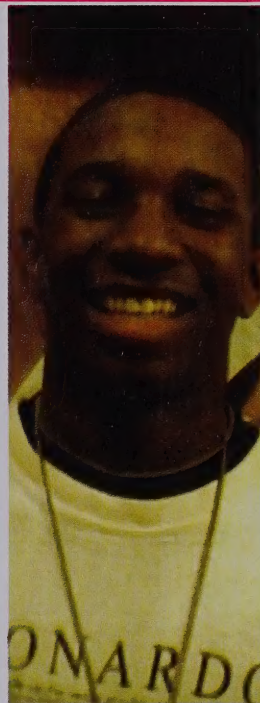
I laugh out loud at the wildly offensive propaganda espoused by the radical religious right when they attack our community. I'm proud to be gay. In my opinion, being gay is one of the best qualities, and LGBT should be very happy to have received such a rare and beautiful gift, despite what anyone says.

Unfortunately, some of the radical, misguided propaganda against us sticks. Like every group of people, our community has its share of problems, but we can fix ours. We have a lot to do if we want to strike down the forces of hate and inequality in our march forward toward our rights, your rights, human rights.

I think that we have to show that we not only want marriage equality but that we deserve it as well. We should be the picture of intelligence, morality, and acceptance, especially in our relationships with other minority communities. As members of the LGBT community, we have to be stalwarts for protected sex, we also have to take steps against the trend of drug use in our community. We have to do more to correct people's misunderstandings about homosexuality and the LGBT community. There is absolutely no reason why we should not enjoy the same rights as our heterosexual counterparts, because we have the facts on our side.

We can easily take down the radical religious right, and we need to move toward that end. We are a valuable part of society. We need to make it clear that we are not only here to stay, but that we are also here to make a difference. Homosexuality is not unnatural or immoral, and we are obliged to show it. We are too strong to lose to our adversaries, and in the end I know we will win our rights, your rights, human rights.

and advocacy. **Youthpride** has been making coming out shared, celebrated and safe for lgbtq youth from across georgia since 1995.
www.youthpride.org

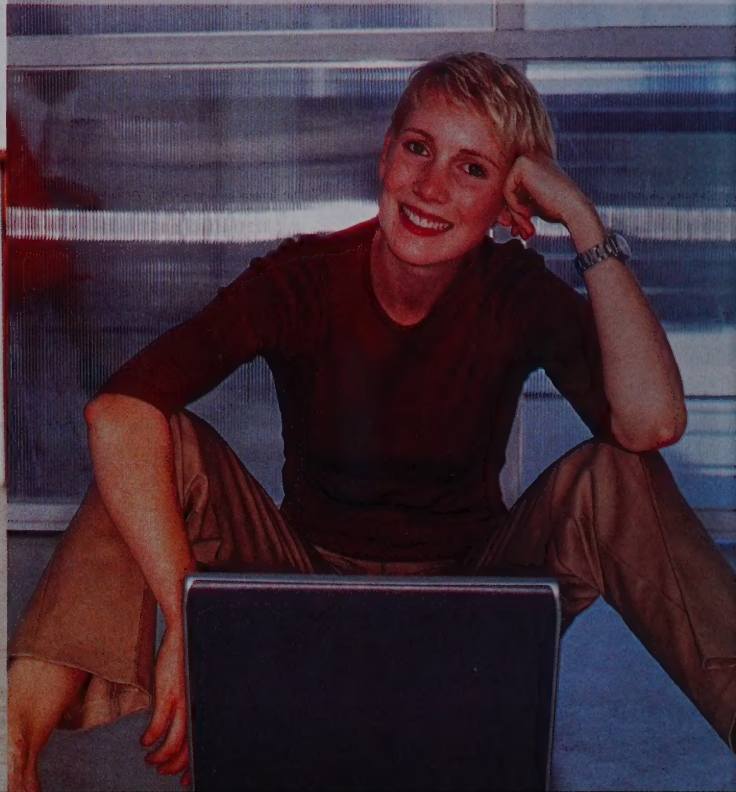
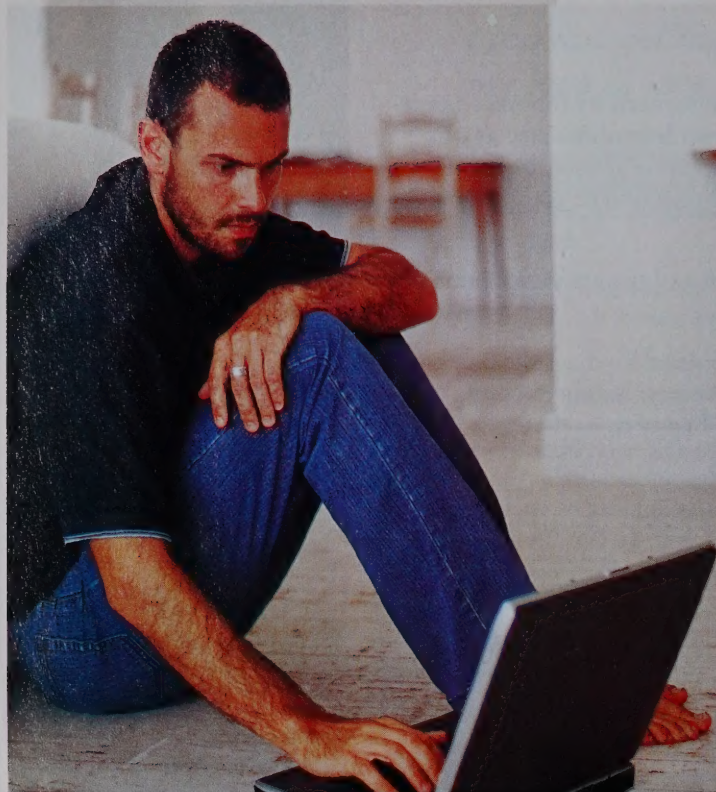


dexter 16

Dexter is a native of Atlanta, Georgia. He is a freshman at Redan. Dexter lives with his mom and 14 year old sister. He has been out to his friends for two years and family for six months. Dexter has an interest in politics, fashion, and science, and enjoys reading, shopping, and karate. Dexter plans to go to either MIT or Emory, and his goal in life is to become President of the United States. Dexter is an active member of YouthPride

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**James
Dustin,
LNMT**

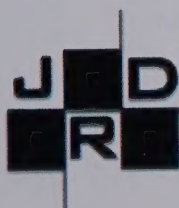
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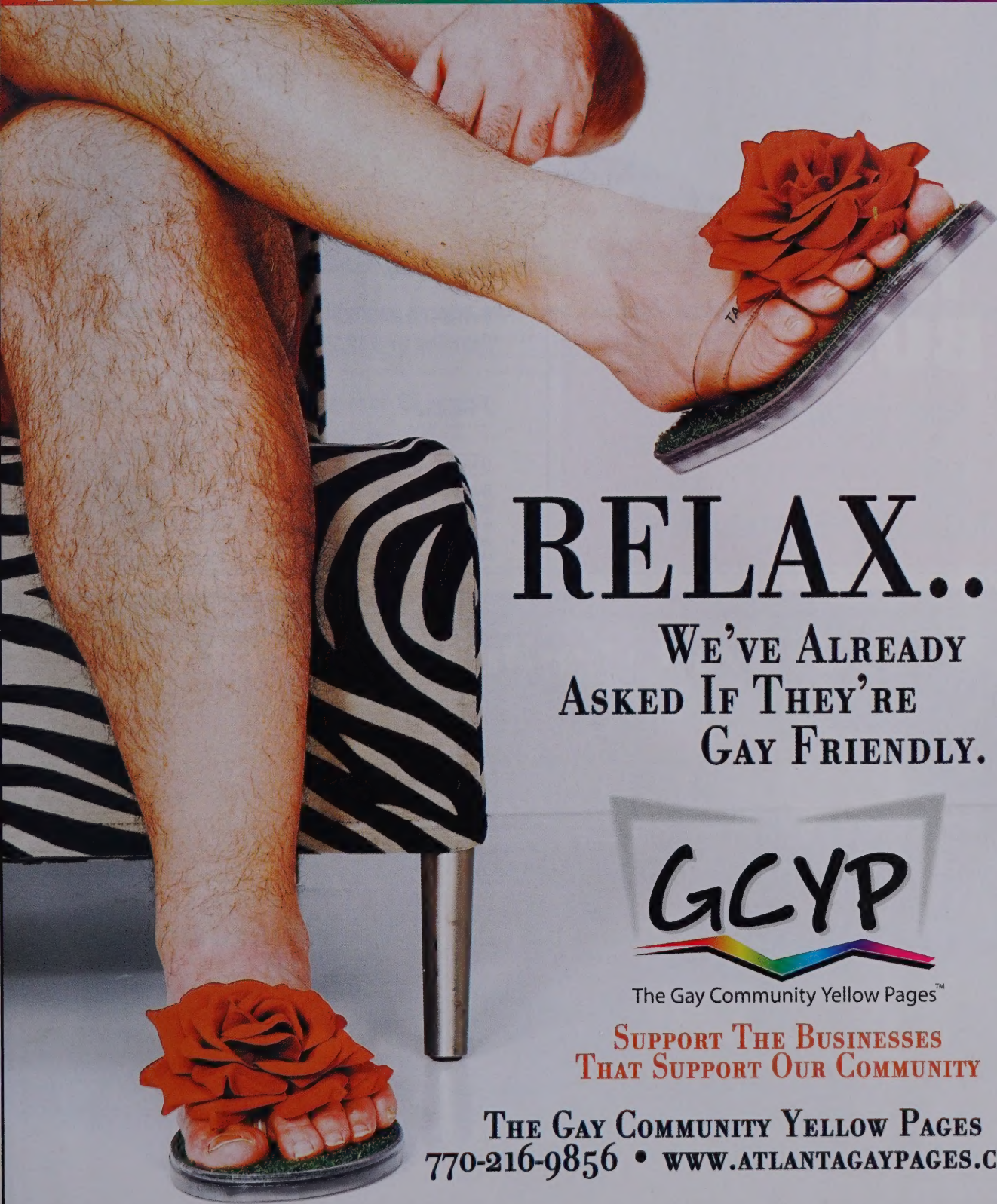
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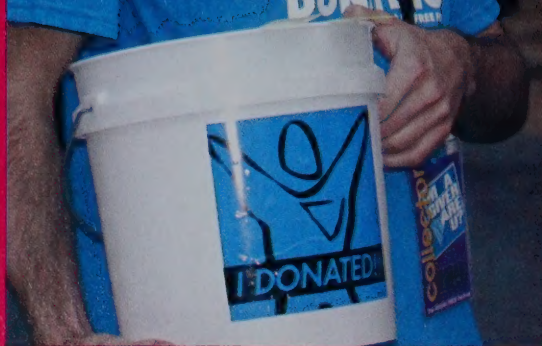
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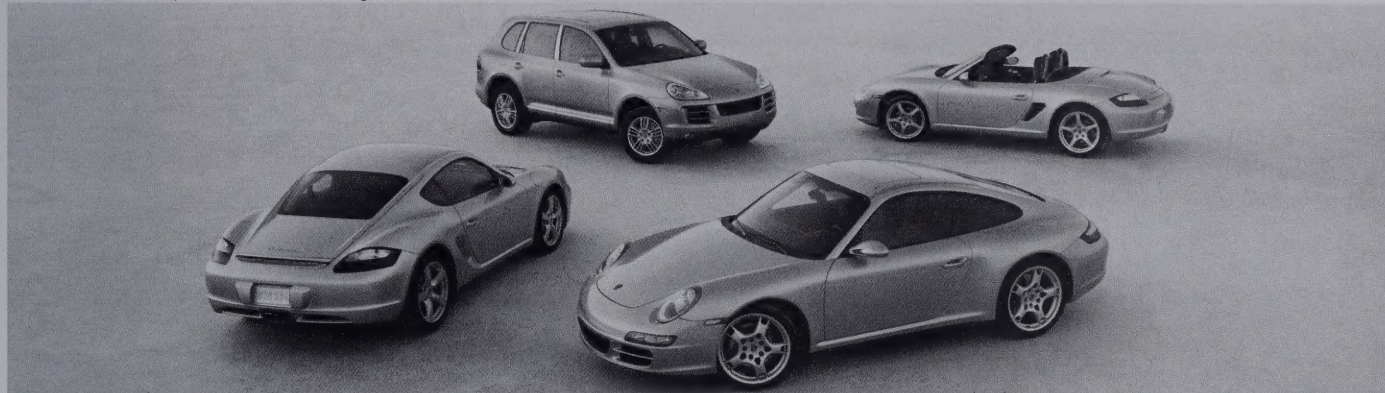
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InterPride and POSE



InterPride is an international organization that brings together Pride event planners from around the globe. The organization was founded under the name National Association of Lesbian and Gay Pride Coordinators in Boston, Massachusetts, where in the fall of 1982 representatives from about half a dozen US Pride Organizations gathered together to network. Since then, an annual conference has been held in a different city and attendance has steadily grown. As the events have become more international in scope, the organization changed its name to the International Association of Lesbian and Gay Pride Coordinators (InterPride).

InterPride is divided into 20 regions worldwide. Region 5, also known as Prides of the Southeast (**POSE**), includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

We encourage you to support **POSE** by attending annual Pride events. The organizers of these events work tirelessly to provide a safe space for GLBT people to gather, learn about community resources, celebrate diversity, and just be OUT.

POSE 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 10-11	Pride South Florida	Fort Lauderdale, Florida
April 14-15	Mobile PrideFest	Mobile, Alabama
June 2	Nashville Pride	Nashville, Tennessee
June 3	Capital Pride	Little Rock, Arkansas
June 9	Mid-South Pride	Memphis, Tennessee
June 10	West Virginia Pride	Charleston, Washington DC
June 10	Central Alabama PrideFest	Birmingham, Alabama
June 15-16	Kentuckiana Pride	Louisville, Kentucky
June 22-24	Atlanta Pride	Atlanta, Georgia
June 23	Conway Gay Pride	Conway, Arkansas
June 24	PGFTL- Stonewall Street Festival	Oakland Park, Florida
June 24	Stonewall Picnic & Pride Festival	Hopkinsville, Kentucky
June 30	St. Pete Pride	St. Petersburg, Florida
July 19-22	Miami Beach Bruthaz	Miami, Florida
Sept 15	Savannah Pride	Savannah, Georgia
Sept 16	Roanoke Pride In the Park	Roanoke, Virginia
Sept 16	Hampton Roads Pride	Norfolk, Virginia
Sept 22	South Carolina Pride	Columbia, South Carolina
Sept 23-29	Gay Pride Virginia	Midlothian, Virginia
Sept 29	North Carolina Pride	Durham, North Carolina
October 13	Gainesville Pride	Gainesville, Florida

LEARN MORE ABOUT IT

for the most up-to-date information about Pride events in the southeast and **POSE**:

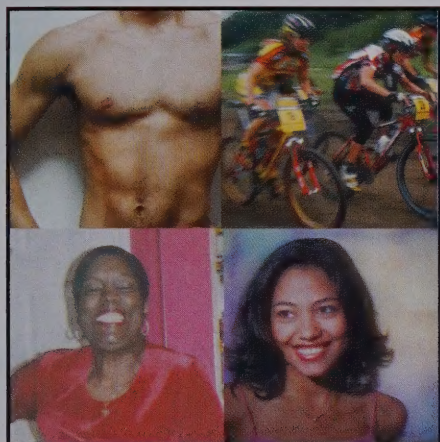
www.myspace.com/pridesofthesoutheast

for a global calander of events:

www.interpride.org

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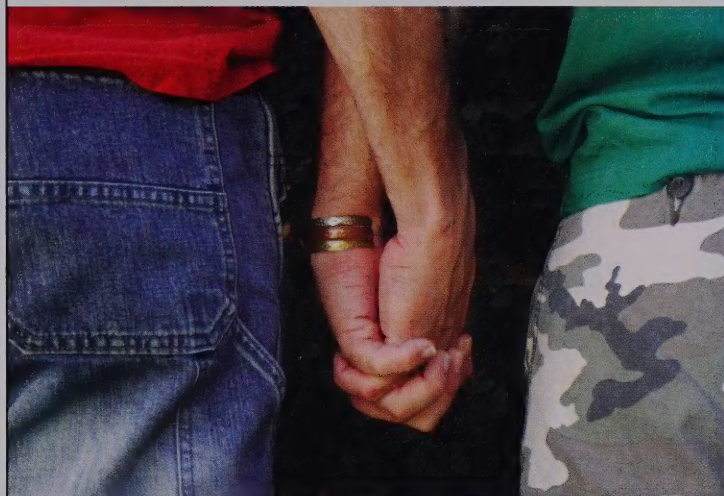
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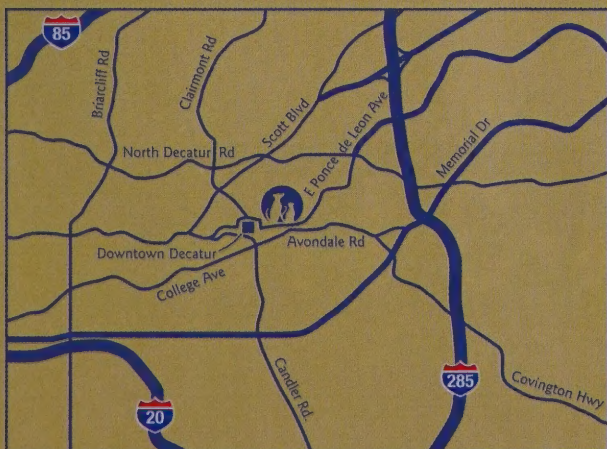
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REMEMBER ME



QUILT BLOCK 4289

47,000 PANELS

2007 marks the 20th year since the founding of The NAMES Project Foundation/AIDS Memorial Quilt.

Who imagined that 20 years ago when a group of friends gathered together with an idea of creating a Quilt for their loved ones, what would result would be a study in compassion, activism, unity and love, that out of tremendous pain and loss would flow a river of hope, healing and transformation.

Nationally headquartered in Atlanta, The NAMES Project Foundation continues to preserve, care for and use The AIDS Memorial Quilt to foster healing, heighten awareness, and inspire action in the age of AIDS. Wherever it is displayed, The Quilt provides balm for the painful wounds of grief, pours oil into the waters made turbulent by controversy, opens eyes that refuse to see and enlists every person who experiences it to play a role in stopping the pandemic.

BECOME A PART OF THE QUILT

The AIDS Memorial Quilt is composed of more than 47,000 individual 3 x 6 foot panels memorializing some 90,000 individuals lost to HIV/AIDS. It stands as the largest, ongoing, community folk art project in the world and our greatest tool to educate against the lethal threat of AIDS. You can be a part of this epic effort. You can add your voice to the thousands that are already sewn into the Quilt by creating a new panel for The AIDS Memorial Quilt.

The NAMES Project Foundation hosts free panel-making workshops every Sunday afternoon in their Atlanta headquarters. The workshops offer a wonderful chance to be inspired by thousands of other panels and to work with the staff to design a panel for The Quilt in memory of an individual who has died of AIDS.



90,000 INDIVIDUALS

Julie Rhoad, Executive Director of The NAMES Project, explains, "The AIDS Memorial Quilt is the only national memorial made by the people. By joining together, we have created wonderful, intimate, epic, healing art, art that educates and inspires. What began with a needle and thread now stands as a silent, stunning tribute to life in the age of AIDS." She adds, "I hope you will consider attending our Sunday workshops and sharing your stories, time and talent with us."

Panels are as diverse as the people they memorialize. They have been created out of denim, leather, imported silk, vinyl, flags, fur and show curtains, with names spelled out in fabric or spray paint, braided cord or sequins. Items affixed to panels include credit cards, wedding rings, photographs and computer-generated images, articles of clothing, letters, costumes, a stage dummy, record albums, teddy bears, locks of human hair and a pair of cowboy boots. Designs range from stick figure drawings to elaborate creations.

Rhoad adds, "Creating a panel for a loved one is a unique way to come together, to remember, to celebrate, to mourn and perhaps find some peace through artistic expression. Each year, The AIDS Memorial Quilt is presented in more than 1,000 displays around the world -- in community centers, schools, places of worship, corporations, etc. -- and the panel you create can be part of this international effort to inspire hope, healing and action in the fight against AIDS."

THE QUILT INVITES YOU TO "CALL MY NAME"

*"On worn kitchen stools and tables, we are
piercing our weapons together, Scraps of different
histories. Do not let us shatter any altar." - from
"Call" by Audre Lorde*

The NAMES Project Foundation has begun a targeted campaign titled "Call My Name" to increase the number of panels created by African Americans, for African Americans. This campaign includes special panel-making workshops presented on designated Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the Atlanta headquarters. These free workshops are hosted by AIDS Memorial Quilt Curator Jada Harris and led by Atlanta textile artist Marquetta Bell-Johnson.



According to Jada Harris, "The AIDS Memorial Quilt is our most powerful tool to educate against HIV/AIDS, but right now The Quilt cannot do its job because we do not have enough panels created by and for African Americans. Of the 47,000 panels on The Quilt, less than 400 were created for African Americans." Harris adds, "As HIV/AIDS claims more and more lives in our community, we need to remember our dead and honor their memories by creating a panel that can then go on to potentially save lives."

Harris has set an ambitious workshop goal of creating 100 new panels by and for African Americans for The AIDS Memorial Quilt by World AIDS Day (December 1, 2007) so that these new panels can go on to tour the Historically Black Colleges and Universities around the county. Harris adds, "To make this happen, we need your stories."

Funding for the "Call My Name" workshops is provided in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council.

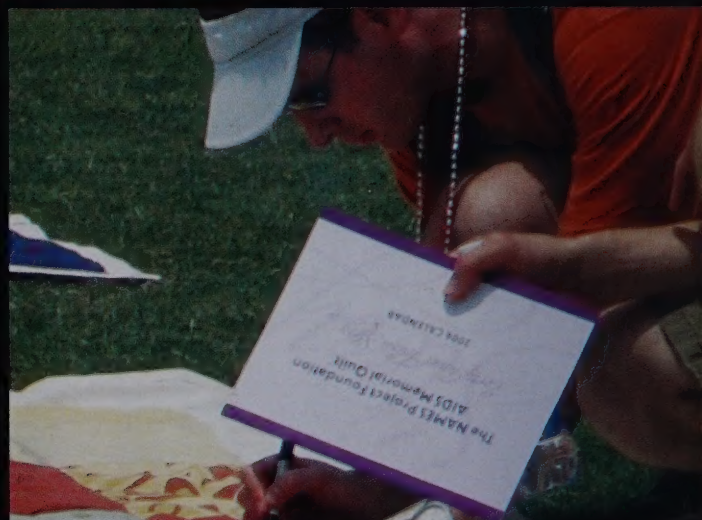
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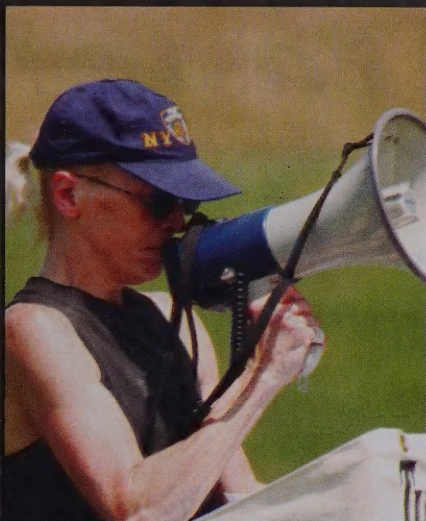
www.aidsquilt.org

For "Call My Name" workshops, sessions
information contact
Jada Harris at (404) 688-5500 ext. 228.

For information about creating a panel contact
Gert McMullin, Production Manager,
(404) 688-5500 or go to aidsquilt.org

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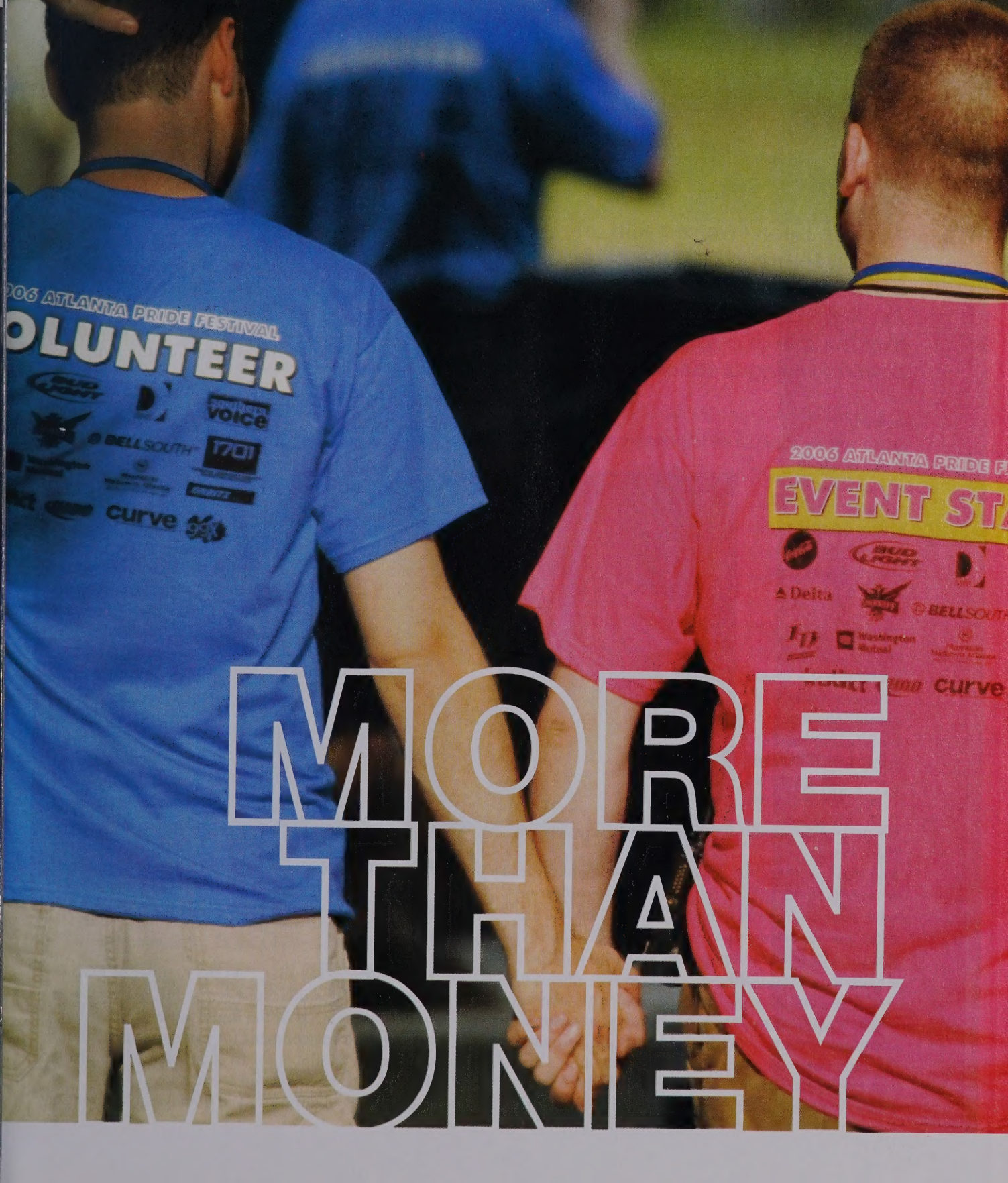
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If you've been involved with an employee group or some other effort to engage corporations in the Atlanta Pride Festival, you know that the role of a sponsor goes far beyond writing a check.

Indeed, when you see a corporate logo such as those for Coke or Delta, it's a good time to pause and reflect on the individuals within the company that made it happen.

They are creating change and truly building alliances toward greater equality by bringing their companies forward to support Pride.

It's no wonder that these employees and their partners feel pride when they staff a booth or march in the parade under a banner emblazoned with their company's name. These individuals are often the very ones who founded LGBTQ employee groups within those companies and who had the chutzpah – often during less diverse and open times – to come out at work by asking their employers to publicly commit dollars, person-power and more to community events like the Atlanta Pride Festival. It's only natural to feel gratitude for the brave and visionary people who recognized not only that it takes very real dollars to stage such a huge event

and have it presented as free to the public, but also that each company openly supporting Pride is leading the way for others to do the same. Just as each individual coming out as an LGBTQ person breaks down barriers, these sponsor companies are essentially demonstrating that they value diversity and that their counterparts should do the same.

Take Don Kocher and Hewlett-Packard

as an example. "Hewlett-Packard's growing association with the Atlanta Pride Festival is a

culmination of 10 years of individuals' efforts to obtain equal treatment in their workplace," says Kocher, who is a Business Systems Analyst at Hewlett-Packard.

"In 1996, when HP's Atlanta LGBT network group was formed, there was a significant amount of intolerance towards gay and lesbian employees. Initially, we formed

the group to be a social network and to support each other. We had no budget, but we participated in the Pride festivals as a visible support for our gay co-workers."

He goes on to say that, "As the number of LGBT network groups increased across HP, management became convinced of the importance of providing an inclusive environment for gay employees. Funds were made available for us to accelerate our efforts. The Atlanta LGBT group spent several years providing education to local management about gay

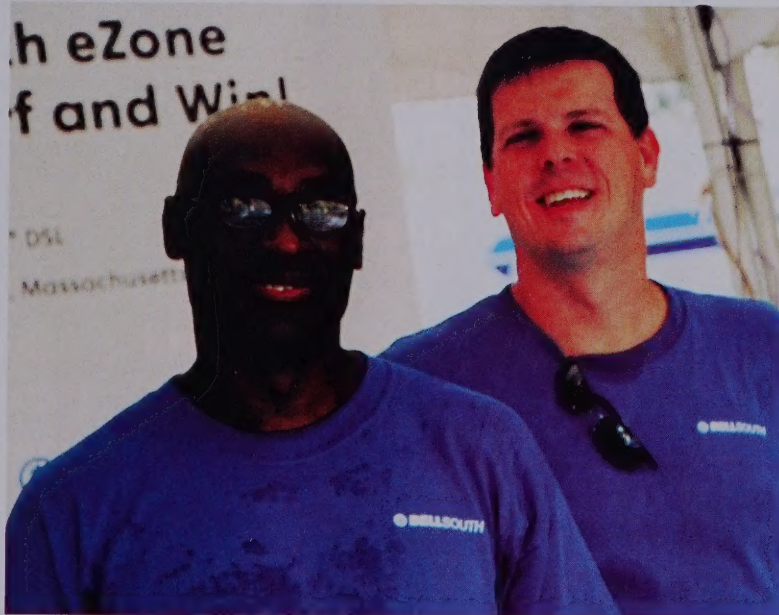




issues, identifying straight allies, and partnering with Human Resources to address discrimination issues as they arose."

The efforts of Kocher and his colleagues paid off: "That HP is now one of the sponsors of the Atlanta Pride Festival demonstrates how a relatively small number of individuals were able to impact their workplace into becoming one that is accepting and supportive of the gay community," Kocher says. "I am proud of how HP now supports their LGBT employees."

A newer sponsor, Brown-Forman Beverages, saw that Pride sponsorship was both the right thing to do and a good business opportunity.



"Brown-Forman is excited to again partner with the Atlanta Pride Festival," says Kanata Herring, Marketing Manager for Brown-Forman Beverages Atlantic Division. "The festival has become an Atlanta staple and great opportunity for us to build brand ambassadors and loyalty among its attendees."

"We consistently look for opportunities to build long-term relationships with our consumers; it is important that we not only leverage our brands,

like Korbel Champagne and Little Black Dress wines, but be active participants in the community," she says. "Through our involvement with the Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce and the Atlanta Pride Festival, we are proud to connect with such a dynamic consumer base."

It's also heartening to see that, as companies evolve, they continue to support Pride. "

The former BellSouth, a long-time supporter of Atlanta Pride, is now part of the new AT&T, and AT&T shares the former BellSouth's commitment to diversity and inclusion, believing that these elements are essential to the company's culture and business success," says

Charlie Frew, Director – Workforce Diversity & Inclusion, AT&T.

"In fostering diversity and inclusion, AT&T has created a better business environment, one that makes the company an employer of choice, a preferred business partner and an important contributor to the community."

In fact, Frew goes on to say, "AT&T has received numerous honors for the company's commitment to diversity. In 2006, *DiversityInc* ranked the

MORE THAN MONEY_{cont}

company as one of the Top 10 Companies for GLBT employees. AT&T has also scored a perfect score – 100 percent – on the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index for three consecutive years."

"BellSouth, now AT&T, has served as a sponsor of Atlanta Pride for six years," Frew says. "Through the leadership of our GLBT employee resource group, LEAGUE (formerly New Angle), Atlanta Pride has proven to be a tremendous marketing opportunity for the company, and one in which we could celebrate and demonstrate our support of the diversity within the Atlanta community and our own workforce."

"We're gratified to have sponsorships from partners large and small, new and old," says Donna Narducci, executive director of Atlanta Pride. "I am proud that such a variety of sponsors work with us in so many creative ways to support the needs of festival-goers. Conversely, it's important to remember that it was often festival-goers themselves – employees of these sponsor companies – that brought them into the mix."



Narducci adds that, beyond the basic marketing alliances that bring dollars to Pride, "remember that people are at the heart of all of the efforts you see. A lot goes in to creating and staffing booths, representing organizations in the parade, and selling souvenirs and such."

"And, of course, there are certainly still folks who are closeted who can look at the company names represented at Pride and all of the individuals who made that possible, and get a personal boost of sorts, knowing there are people and organizations working to enable them to be out at whatever level they feel comfortable whenever they are ready," Narducci says.

"It's all part of the larger message of Pride: Celebrating our victories and looking toward a more inclusive world, during Pride and every day."

WANT TO LEARN MORE:

The Atlanta Pride Committee salutes all the LGBT Employee groups that have helped create change from within.

For a listing of LGBT employee groups
Employee Network Groups:
www.hrc.org

For a listing of Atlanta Pride Sponsors:
www.atlantapride.org/sponsors/2007



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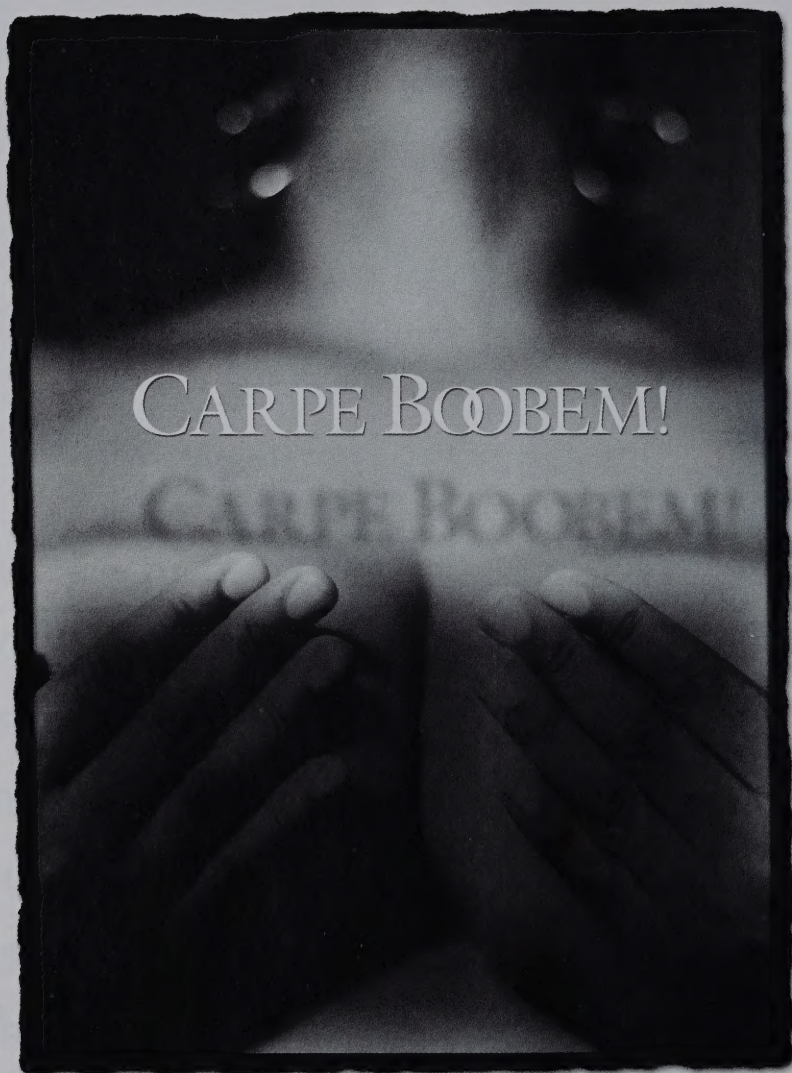
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CARPE BOOBEM!

THE ATLANTA LESBIAN HEALTH INITIATIVE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

CARPE BOOBEM

Lesbian communities are often tight knit, and Atlanta is no exception. We have our favorite hangouts, places to shop, and places to eat and drink. If we need to know which parties to be seen at, we pick up a copy of *Labrys Magazine*. If we need a great place to camp, we head out to Swiftwaters. On the occasion that we need a good book on sexual liberation and the Women's Rights Movement, Charis is right around the corner. But where do we go when our lives hang in the balance? Who do we turn to for support and guidance during our most trying times?

Adult lesbians are one of the most under-recognized populations in Georgia. We have disproportionate risks to develop cancer and other illness, and we sometimes struggle to make healthy choices. Seeking medical advice, or even going to an OBGYN, can become awkward when we can't find "family-" friendly practitioners, which in turn causes many women to go without needed checkups and treatments. Over the past 11 years, one organization has been on the forefront of tackling the incredible obstacles lesbians face in caring for one of our most valuable resources: our bodies.

The Atlanta Lesbian Health Initiative (ALHI) serves as the only lesbian health organization in the southeastern United States. From education and outreach to advocacy and support, they run the gamut in providing services for lesbians who are committed to living healthier lives, or who have been diagnosed with disease. Originally founded as the Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative, the organization has grown from a local support group to what it is today – a multifaceted entity that creates a sense of community that is more than just skin deep.

Here's a more in-depth look at the Health Initiative and the services they offer:



ATLANTA LESBIAN HEALTH INITIATIVE

THE ALHI VISION

The work that ALHI does each day moves Georgia closer to becoming more progressive in regards to women's health. Their driving force is the notion that in our state, and throughout the southeast, every lesbian should:

- **Have access to healthcare that is sensitive to and supportive of her life circumstances.**
- **Have regular and safe access to health screenings.**
- **Have the opportunity and the encouragement to live fully and healthfully.**
- **Have access to the information and resources necessary to make informed decisions about their health.**
- **Stand up and advocate for their own health.**

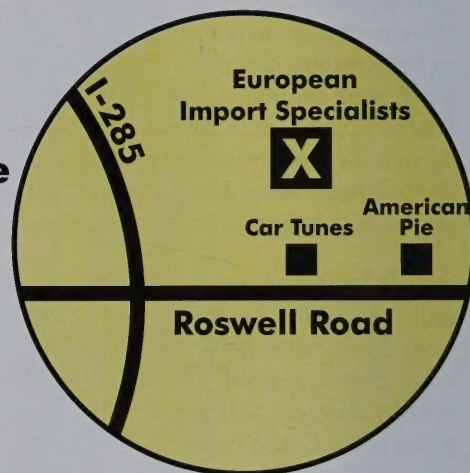
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ABOUT ALHI's WORK

The Health Initiative advocates for lesbian health.

When women's health is discussed at the state capital or in public arenas, the Health Initiative is there to ensure that lesbians and women who partner with women are represented.

The Health Initiative supports women living with illness.

ALHI serves, at no cost, women diagnosed with cancer and other chronic diseases, along with their partners and family members who also may request assistance. These services include:

- One-on-one counseling.
- Support groups for women with cancer, survivors, family members and friends.
- A large on-site library and links to information resources through ALHI's web site.
- Referrals to complementary agencies that help with meals, housing, expenses and insurance.
- Design of client-specific support including CareTeams comprised of relatives, friends, and volunteers who attend doctor visits, provide transportation, help with housework, provide pet care and spend time with the client.

The Health Initiative promotes health and prevention.

There is not just one lesbian community. The Health Initiative offers health and wellness programs and information that are created for different audiences based on their age, geography, race, culture and socioeconomic situation. Women are encouraged to make healthy choices and are supported as they do so.

The Health Initiative trains healthcare providers.

The Health Initiative offers cultural competency training to facilitate lesbian-friendly healthcare services. Healthcare provider training is important because it creates a ripple effect throughout the community, having a positive impact on even more women's lives than any individual outreach the Health Initiative can do. Need a lesbian-friendly healthcare provider? Visit the Health Initiative's web site to access ALHI's list of Atlanta metro area physicians committed to offering gay/lesbian supportive services.



TAKE THE INITIATIVE!

Take hold of your breast health...

All women are at risk for developing breast cancer. Studies show that lesbians can be at a higher risk than straight women for developing breast cancer and other diseases. The GOOD NEWS is you can do several things to reduce your risk of developing the disease.

Take hold of your breast health by doing the following:

CARPE BOOBEM!

Perform a breast self-exam every month.

An effective tool for early detection of breast cancer is a familiarity with how your breasts look and feel under normal conditions. Armed with that knowledge, you'll be better able to detect if something changes and see a doctor right away. For more information on how to perform a breast self-exam, contact the Health Initiative

GET A MAMMOGRAM

every year after age 40

(or earlier if your doctor recommends).

A mammogram is a type of x-ray that can be effective at detecting most types of breast cancer. Most doctors agree that having this annual screening is a positive step a woman can take to manage her own health. Women with higher risk of breast cancer should talk with their health care provider about the best approach for them. Let the Health Initiative help you remember to get your mammogram each year by signing up for an annual mammogram reminder e-mail.



ABOVE: One way ALHI promotes living healthy is through their organized softball team. Regular practices and games keep women active.

BELOW: The Health Initiative hosts support groups for women living with cancer, cancer survivors, their family members and friends.



LIVE HEALTHIER:

reduce your risk factors for developing breast cancer and other diseases.

Many studies point to a positive link between healthier choices and reduced risk of developing cancer and other diseases. Adopting healthier habits isn't always easy, so the Health Initiative is here to help. *Take steps now to:*

Eat healthier food.

Get to and maintain a healthy weight.

Increase your daily activity.

Quit smoking.

Reduce or eliminate alcohol consumption

You have the power to improve your health. Experts agree that food and fitness are two essential keys to good health. Small changes that you make today can reduce your risk of many diseases and help you look and feel better. Change isn't easy but the Health Initiative offers support and information to turn "I can't" into "I can."

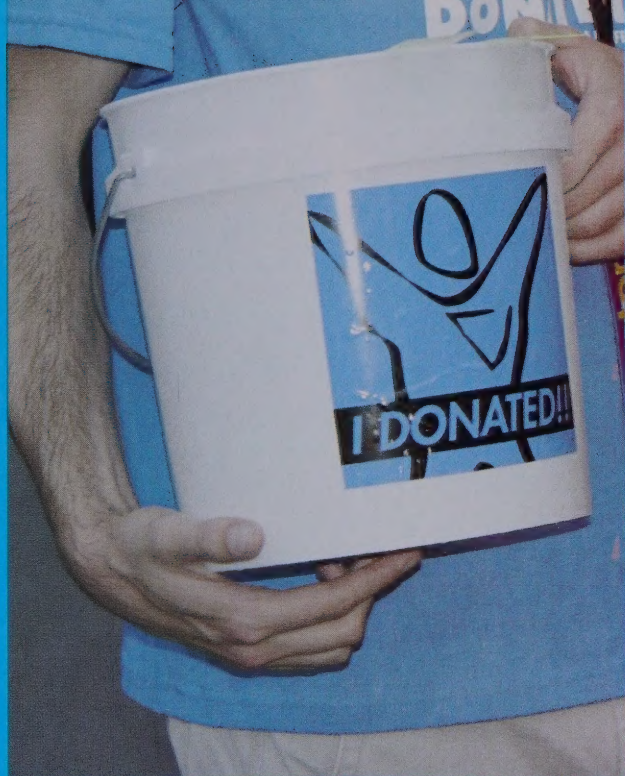
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WEIGHT WATCHERS MEETING

Managing weight can be a lifelong challenge for lesbians. For many reasons, we tend to have higher body mass indexes than straight women. Higher BMIs can increase risk of many diseases including cancer, heart disease and diabetes. The good news is that we CAN do something about our weight and BMI. Weight Watchers offers many successful tools for managing a healthy weight. Join Weight Watchers today and attend meetings at ALHI.

WANT TO LEARN MORE:

www.thehealthinitiative.org



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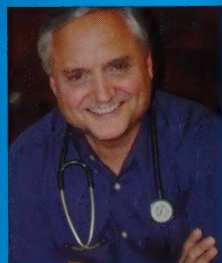
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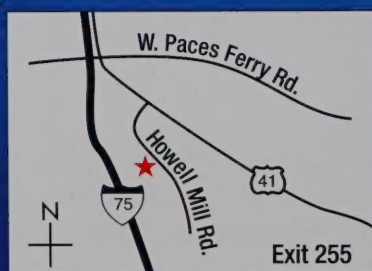
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